JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

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LYCEUM THEATRE.

To Day, at 2, KING HENRY THE EIGHTH. Mr. Irving; Miss Ellen Terry; Messrs. Terriss, Stirling, Howe, Bishop, Hague, Tyars, Farquhar, Beaumont, Haviland, G. Craig, Bond, Harvey, Lacy, Johnson, Archer, and Forbes Robertson; Misses Vanbrugh, Le Thiere, Mrs. Pauncefort, &c.

CRITERION THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.45, THE FRINGE OF SOCIETY. Mr. Charles Wyndham, Mr. F. Atheley, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Carlotta Addison and Mrs. Langtry. Preceded, at 8.15, by TWO YOUNG WIVES.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.45, WALKER, LONDON. Mr. J. L. Toole and Miss Mary Brough. At 7.45, DAISY'S ESCAPE. Mr. J. Billington and Miss Poole.

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This Evening, at 8.15, MIDSUMMER DAY; at 9, LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN. Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Nutcombe Gould; Miss Fanny Coleman and Miss Marion Terry

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This Evening, at 8.30, THE NEW SUB. At 9.10, FAITHFUL JAMES. At 10, A PANTOMIME REHEARSAL Messrs. Thomas, Elliot, Branscombe, Bertram, Weedon Grossmith, &c. Misses G. Kingston, Terriss, and D. Moore, &c.

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This Evening, at 8.30, CINDER-ELLEN UP TOO LATE. Miss K. James and Mr. Fred Leslie. At 7.40, QUEEN STREET

STRAND THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.50, NIOBE (ALL SMILES). Messrs. Harry Paulton, Forbes Dawson, Herbert Ross, George Hawtrey, A. C. Mackenzie; Misses Beatrice Lamb, Isabel Ellissen, Venie Bennett, Eleanor May, G. Esmond, I. Goldsmith, and C. Serbini. At 8, NO CREDIT. Misses Esmond, Bennett; Mr. Hawtrey, &c.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

This Evening, at 9, THE NOBLE ART. Messrs. Arthur Williams, H. Reeves Smith, Julian Cross, Sydney Valentine, W. Cheeseman, Mansfield, and Mr. Ellis Norwood; Mesdames Blanche Horlock, Leechman, Goodchild, Ethel Norton. At 8.15, CHALK AND CHEESE. Mesdames Norton, Irving, and Ellis Norwood.

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N.B.—Lord Chancellor Selborne, Lord Justice James, and Lord Justice Mellish decided in favour of FREEMAN'S ORIGINAL CHLORODYNE, and against Brown and Davenport, compelling them to pay all costs in the suit.—See TIMES of July 24, 1873.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JULY 16.

THE COUNTY ELECTIONS.

The elections in the English counties have followed the course that was generally anticipated. The Gladstonian party has to a great extent retrieved the losses of 1886, and has done much to regain the position of predominance that was won in 1885. There is no difficulty in furnishing an adequate explanation of this result. The agricultural labourer has once more been victimised by the organised system of lying that the Radical party relies upon. For Home Rule in Ireland he knows little and cares less. What he does know is that he is promised all manner of personal benefits and advantages if he votes for the Radical candidate, and that he is assured that the certain result of voting for a Tory will be a dear loaf and diminished wages. The only means of counteracting the effects of Radical falsehoods, Radical misrepresentations, and Radical slander is the vigorous exercise of the personal influence of the Conservative classes in the country districts. And at this election it is notorious that the activity which achieved success six years ago has not been generally manifested. There has been no enthusiasm in working for the support of a Government that during its tenure of office has done so much for the advancement of Radical principles, and threatened, if it were again returned to power, to once more carry out schemes of Radical legislation. The apathy of leading Conservatives which, throughout the counties, has been loudly complained of by eager partisans is the natural consequence of the abandonment of principles by the Conservative leaders. It is satisfactory to notice that the nominal Conservative candidates who are chiefly identified with the support of a democratic policy have met with invariable defeat at the polls. Mr. WALTER LONG, who, together with Mr. RITCHIE, was officially responsible for the establishment of Democratic County Councils, has been decisively defeated in Wiltshire. Popular as Mr. LONG is personally, his defeat has occasioned little regret. It is felt that in his case as in that of his chief, poetic justice has been done. Other prominent advocates of Radicalism on the Conservative benches such as Sir EDWARD BIRKBECK, Mr. GRAY, and Colonel EYRE have also happily lost their seats. It is to be regretted that Mr. FARQUHARSON, a politician of the same bad type, has been returned for Dorset. The personal importance of party gains and losses in the contests for the counties has been singularly slight. The defeat of Viscount CRANBORNE in Lancashire is unfortunate. Lord CRANBORNE has shown himself a vigorous defender of Conservative principles, and has invariably resisted the prevailing inclination to sacrifice the maintenance of convictions to the counsels of expediency. Lord WEYMOUTH, who has been beaten in Somerset, is a young politician who will be missed on the Tory side of the new House of Commons. Mr. CONINGSBY DISRAELI is to be congratulated on the fortunate issue of his first contested election.

In Wales the Conservative party has a series of reverses to deplore, with the result that the Conservative party in the Principality will only have a couple of representatives. In Scotland there has been a series of unexpected victories and equally unexpected defeats. In the end the campaign is not one that the Conservatives can regard with unmitigated satisfaction. There is one result, however, that is cause for hearty congratulation. The reduction of Mr. GLADSTONE'S majority in Midlothian from 4,000 to 700 is not the least significant incident of the present electoral struggle. It shows that Mr. GLADSTONE'S personal influence in Scotland, the glamour of which his partisans were accustomed to boast, is fast dying out, and that his name is no longer a name to charm with, a fact that is further illustrated by the falling off in the majority of his son, Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE, in Leeds, from 2,000 to 300. Mr. GLADSTONE is anxious to explain that it is not objections to Home Rule that have lost him the confidence of so large a proportion of his constituents in Midlothian. He is of opinion that his support of the Disestablishment of the Scotch Church accounts for the defection of his old supporters. Ordinary critics will be content to note that whatever the cause may be Mr. GLADSTONE'S personal prestige has immensely declined. Mr. GLADSTONE is likely to find that the clear indications that he no longer wields his old influence will greatly affect his position as leader of his party in Parliament. He is likely to find his personal authority considerably impaired in the new House of Commons.

The elections in Ireland are, on the whole, satisfactory. The Unionists have waged a courageous fight against overwhelming odds, and the seats which they have won not only in boroughs like Dublin, Belfast, and Londonderry, but in county divisions, like Dublin and Fermanagh, are well-deserved rewards of their exertions. The staunch supporters of Mr. PARNELL have been unable to hold their own against the main body of the Nationalists under the leadership of Archbishop WALSH and Mr. TIMOTHY HEALY. It is clear that the Nationalist movement owes its entire strength and vitality to the action of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. At the present time the Irish members of Parliament are practically nominated by Archbishop WALSH just as they used to be nominated by Mr. PARNELL. The small contingent of Parnellites, some seven in number, who will find seats in the new House of Commons, are likely to constitute a force in Irish politics that Mr. GLADSTONE will be compelled to count with. The main body of the Nationalists receives two notable recruits to its numbers in the persons of Mr. EDWARD BLAKE and Mr. MICHAEL DAVITT. Whether Mr. MICHAEL DAVITT is qualified to sit in the House of Commons seems open to question. It is quite certain that anyone who has been sentenced to a term of penal servitude ought not to be permitted to fill a place in the Imperial Legislature. Mr. EDWARD BLAKE, who was for a long time the leader of the Liberal party in Canada, comes to the British House of Commons with a high reputation for ability and moderation. It will be satisfactory to have on the Irish benches, as the exponent of the Home Rule policy, a politician who has some claims to respect.

THE ISSUE OF THE STRUGGLE.

For all practical purposes the General Election of 1892 may be considered as at an end, and the result of the struggle is that Mr. GLADSTONE will find himself in the possession of a majority of some forty votes in the new House of Commons. It is long since parties were so evenly divided. Recent Governments which have held office have been able to count upon a majority of upwards of a hundred votes, at all events in the earlier stages of their existence. The chances of a prolonged life are clearly not great for a Ministry which the absence of some dozen of its supporters and the defection of half-a-dozen more would suffice to place in a minority, when it is remembered that the most critical constitutional questions are coming up for discussion, and that the Radical majority is made up of the most discordant elements. To induce Mr. WHITBREAD, Mr. LABOUCHERE, Mr. CAINE, Mr. TIMOTHY HEALY, Mr. JOHN BURNS, and Mr. REDMOND, to support one and the same policy in all its details is clearly a work which will task the utmost ingenuity of the old Parliamentary hand.

Mr. GLADSTONE has publicly announced that it will be necessary for him, now that the elections are over, to survey carefully the situation and decide upon his course of action. It is thus clear that his plan of campaign is not definitely settled. It is not altogether certain that the duty of dealing with the Home Rule question will be at once entered upon. When the House of Commons meets in August the first opportunity for clearly ascertaining the strength of parties will be afforded by the election of Speaker. But it is probable that the Radical party will acquiesce in the re-election of Mr. PEEL. When the Queen's Speech comes to be debated an amendment on the address will afford an opportunity for overthrowing the Ministry. It may, of course, be safely assumed that Lord SALISBURY will not, on ascertaining the results of the General Election, at once give in his resignation to HER MAJESTY, but will revert to the old Constitutional usage. The PRIME MINISTER will meet Parliament, and will only resign if a vote of want of confidence in his Ministry is passed. That Mr. GLADSTONE will be successful in this trial of strength of parties is scarcely doubtful. It will then devolve upon Mr. GLADSTONE to form the new Ministry.

Conjecture is already rife as to the constitution of the Radical administration. It is abundantly clear that Mr. GLADSTONE is no longer equal to the discharge of the duties of leader of the Lower House. His failing strength could not endure the strain of the incessant toil that necessarily devolves upon the holder of this person. It is not improbable that Mr. GLADSTONE will take the post of First Lord of the Treasury, and go to the Upper House. It is already rumoured that he would like to have the dignity of Earl of Liverpool revived in his position. This arrangement would, however, be at once the commencement of difficulties for Mr. GLADSTONE. For he would have to decide between Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT and Mr. JOHN MORLEY as leader of the House of Commons, each of whom is said to urge his claims, whilst neither has any strong body of supporters. The difficulty would, it is said, be adjourned by entrusting the duties of the post to the dull mediocrity of Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMANN. That the Earl of ROSEBERY would return to the Foreign Office appears to be generally understood, and he would certainly be less objectionable in that capacity than Lord RIPON or Lord KIMBERLEY, each of whom has claims that are urged by the supporters of the policy of scuttle and surrender. If Lord DUFFERIN could be induced to quit the Embassy of Paris, for a position which should be removed from the controversies of domestic politics, Mr. GLADSTONE and the country would alike have to be congratulated. That Lord SPENCER will be President of the Council, and that places will be found for Lord RIPON and Lord KIMBERLEY may be confidently asserted. Lord HERSCHELL will again be Lord Chancellor, and Sir CHARLES RUSSELL will again be Attorney-General, unless indeed Lord COLERIDGE'S resignation should enable him to become Lord Chief Justice. Mr. RIGBY will doubtless be the new Solicitor-General. The Earl of ABERDEEN is to be the new Viceroy and Mr. JOHN MORLEY again Chief Secretary of Ireland. Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT is likely to return to the Home Office, and Mr. H. FOWLER to be the new Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN will possibly be found at the War Office and SIR GEORGE TREVELYAN at the Admiralty. Mr. LABOUCHERE is to be received into the Cabinet, and at the Duchy of Lancaster may recognise the usefulness of a sinecure post. The new Administration will obviously possess but scant title to the respect or the confidence of the country.

Diverse views are naturally entertained in the Radical ranks as to the policy that it is desirable for the Radical leaders to pursue. The general feeling is notoriously in favour of postponing the consideration of Home Rule, for the danger that the Government would be promptly wrecked if it once pressed forward with a Home Rule policy is on all sides recognised. The English Radicals would infinitely prefer to devote the next Session of Parliament to measures designed to advance Radical electioneering interests, such as one man one vote, and registration. But, after all, the Irish Nationalists have to be reckoned with, and it remains to be seen whether they would acquiesce in delay. But Mr. PARNELL'S spirit no longer inspires the Irish party, and accommodations and transactions with Archbishop WALSH and Mr. TIMOTHY HEALY are quite possible. Whether a Home Rule Bill is at once brought forward or not, the chances that the new Radical Ministry will long escape defeat are but small. And a General Election next year may be anticipated with some degree of confidence.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THE ELECTION RETURNS.

The elections throughout the country decided up to Thursday give the following results:—

Conservatives	248	287
Liberal Unionists...	39	
Gladstonians	235	293
Anti-Parnellites	51	
Parnellites	7	
Total returned	580	
Separatist majority	6	

	Total seats	Unionists. C	Unionists. LU	Separatists. G	Separatists. AP	Separatists. P	To Poll.
England (465 seats):							
London	62	35	2	25	—	—	—
Boroughs ...	164	83	12	68	1	—	—
Counties ...	234	96	12	75	—	—	51
Universities ...	5	4	1	—	—	—	—
Wales (30 seats):							
Boroughs ...	11	2	—	9	—	—	—
Counties ...	19	—	—	11	—	—	8
Scotland (72 seats):							
Burghs	31	2	4	24	—	—	1
Counties ...	39	7	4	23	—	—	5
Universities ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Ireland (103 seats):							
Boroughs ...	16	4	2	—	6	4	—
Counties	85	11	2	—	44	3	25
Universities ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
	670	248	39	235	51	7	90

The following table shows the comparative gains at present:—

Unionist.		Gladstonian.	
Barrow	1	Argyllshire	1
Belfast, W.	1	Ayr Burghs	1
Dorset, N	1	Ayrshire, S.	1
Dublin, St. Stephen's	1	Bedfordshire, N. ...	1
Dublin, South ...	1	Bermondsey	1
Edinburgh, W. ...	1	Boston	1
Fermanagh, N. ...	1	Bradford, E.	1
Glasgow—Camlachie	1	Bristol, N.	1
Lanarkshire, N.W. ...	1	Camberwell, N. ...	1
Londonderry City ...	1	Cambridgeshire, W.	1
Montgomeryshire ...	1	Cumberland, Egremont	1
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	1	Derbyshire, E. ...	1
Northumberland, Hexham	1	Devonport	2
Nottingham, W. ...	1	Devonshire, Tavistock	1
Perth, City	1	Devon, Barnstaple ...	1
Rochester	1	Dumbartonshire ...	1
St. Pancras, W. ...	1	Durham	1
Scarborough	1	Durham, S.E.	1
Stockton-on-Tees ...	1	Durham, Houghton-le-Spring	1
Walsall	1	Essex, Maldon ...	1
Wednesbury	1	Falkirk Burghs ...	1
Wolverhampton, W. ...	1	Finsbury, C.	1
York	1	Forfarshire	1
		Gloucestershire, Stroud	1
		Greenock	1
		Grimsby	1
		Hereford	1
		Hull, E.	1
		Inverness Group ...	1
		Islington, W.	1
		Kensington, N. ...	1
		Lambeth, N.	1
		Lancashire, Darwen	1
		,, N. Lonsdale	1
		,, Accrington	1
		,, Ince ...	1
		,, Middleton...	1
		Leicester., Loughboro'	1
		Lincolnsh., Gainsboro'	1
		Lincoln	1
		Monmouth District ...	1
		Newcastle-under-Lyme	1
		Newington, W. ...	1
		Norfolk, E.	1
		Norfolk, Mid	1
		Norfolk, N.W. ...	1
		Northamptonshire, S.	1
		Oldham	2
		Oxfordshire, Mid ...	1
		Pembroke District ...	1
		Portsmouth	2
		Reading	1
		Radnorshire	1
		Roxburghshire ...	1
		Salford, N.	1
		Somersetshire, N. ...	1
		,, Frome	1
		Stafford	1
		Stockport	1
		Suffolk, Woodbridge	1
		Tower Hamlets, S. Geo.	1
		,, ,, Bow&Brom.	1
		,, ,, Limehouse	1
		Walworth	1
		West Ham, N. ...	1
		West Ham, S. ...	1
		Whitehaven	1
		Wiltshire, Cricklade	1
		Wiltshire, Devizes ...	1
		Yarmouth	1
		Yorkshire, Doncaster	1
		Yorks, Colne Valley	1
		Yorks, Skipton ...	1
23			76

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The new Parliament, as far the results are yet known, is constituted as follows:—

C, Conservative; U, Unionist; G, Gladstonite; P, Parnellite; AP, Anti-Parnellite; Lab. Labour; * Old Member.

THE METROPOLIS.

CITY OF LONDON (2)—*Sir R. Hanson, C, Alban Gibbs, C
BATTERSEA—J. Burns, Lab
BERMONDSEY—S. Barrow, G
BETHNAL GREEN, S.W.—*E. H. Pickersgill, G
,, N.E.—*G. Howell, G
BOW AND BROMLEY—J. M. Macdonald, G
BRIXTON—*Marquis Carmarthen, C
CAMBERWELL—E. H. Bayley, G
CHELSEA—*C. A. Whitmore, C
CLAPHAM—P. Thornton, C
CROYDON—*Hon. S. Herbert, C
DEPTFORD—Undecided.
DULWICH—*J. Blundell Maple, C
FINSBURY, East—*J. Rowlands, G
,, Central—D. Naoroji, G
FULHAM—*W. H. Fisher, C
GREENWICH—*T. W. Boord, C
HACKNEY, South—*Sir C. Russell, G
,, North—W. R. Bousfield, C
,, Central—Sir Andrew Scoble, C
HAGGERSTON—*W. R. Cremer, G
HAMPSTEAD—*Brodie Hoare, C
HAMMERSMITH—*General Goldsworthy, C
HOLBORN—*Gainsford Bruce, C
HOXTON—*Professor Stuart, G
ISLINGTON, North—*G. C. T. Bartley, C
,, South—*Sir A. K. Rollit, C
,, East—B. L. Cohen, C
,, West—T. Lough, G
KENNINGTON—*M. Beaufoy, G
KENSINGTON, S.—*Sir A. Borthwick, C
,, North—F. C. Frye, G
LAMBETH, North—J. Coldwells, G
LEWISHAM—*J. Penn, C
LIMEHOUSE—J. S. Wallace, G
MARYLEBONE, E.—*E. Boulnois, C
,, West—*Seager Hunt, C
MILE END—*S. Charrington, C
NEWINGTON—Capt. Norton, G
NORWOOD—C. E. Tritton, C
PADDINGTON, N.—*J. Aird, C
,, South—*Lord R. Churchill, C
ST. PANCRAS, N.—*T. H. Bolton, G
,, South—*Sir J. Goldsmid, U
,, East—*R. G. Webster, C
,, West—H. R. Graham, C
PECKHAM—F. G. Banbury, C
POPLAR—*S. Buxton, G
ROTHERHITHE—C. Macdona, C
STRAND—*Frederick Smith, C
SOUTHWARK, West—*R. K. Causton, G
STEPNEY—*F. Wootton Isaacson, C
ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE—*G. J. Goschen, C
ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST—J. W. Benn, G
WALWORTH—W. Saunders, G
WANDSWORTH—*H. Kimber, C
WESTMINSTER—*W. Burdett-Coutts, C
WEST HAM, North—A. Grove, G
,, South—J. K. Hardie, Lab
WHITECHAPEL—*S. Montagu, G
WOOLWICH—*E. Hughes, C

There are 62 London seats, the Conservatives now hold 34, the Liberal Unionists 2, the Gladstonians 25, and one, Deptford, is still undecided.

THE PROVINCIAL BOROUGHS.

ASHTON—*J. B. Addison, C
ASTON MANOR—*Captain G. Hutchinson, C
BATH (2)—Colonel Murray, C, *E. R. Wodehouse, U
BEDFORD—*S. Whitbread, G
BARROW—B. W. Cayzer, U
BIRKENHEAD—Viscount Bury, C
BIRMINGHAM, Mid—*J. A. Bright, U
,, North—*Alderman W. Kenrick, U
,, South—Alderman P. Williams, U
,, East—*H. Matthews, C
,, West—*J. Chamberlain, U
,, Edgbaston—*G. Dixon, U
,, Bordesley—*J. Collings, U
BLACKBURN (2)—*W. Coddington, C, *W. H. Hornby, C
BOLTON (2)—*Colonel Bridgman, C, *H. C. Cross, C
BOSTON— W. Ingram, G
BRADFORD, Central—*Shaw Lefevre, G
,, East—W. S. Caine, G
,, West—A. Illingworth, G
BRIGHTON (2)—*Sir W. T. Marriott, C, *G. W. E Loder, C
BRISTOL, North—C. Townsend, G
,, South—*Sir E. S. Hill, C
,, East—*Sir J. D. Weston, G
,, West—*Sir M. Hicks-Beach, C
BURNLEY—*J. S. Balfour, G
BURY—*Sir Henry James, U
BURY ST. EDMUNDS—*Lord F. Hervey, C
CAMBRIDGE—*R. N. P. Fitzgerald, C
CANTERBURY—*Henniker Heaton, C
CARLISLE—*W. C. Gully, G
CHATHAM—Colonel Loyd, C
CHELTENHAM—*J. Agg-Gardner, C
CHESTER—*R. A. Yerburgh, C
CHRISTCHURCH—H. A. Smith, C
COLCHESTER—Captain N. Leyland, C
COVENTRY—*W. Ballantine, G
DARLINGTON—*T. Fry, G
DERBY (2)—*Sir W. V. Harcourt, G, *Ald. Roe, G
DEVONPORT (2)H. Kearley, G, E. J. C. Morton, G
DEWSBURY—*M. Oldroyd, G
DOVER—*G. Wyndham, C
DUDLEY—*Brooke Robinson, C
DURHAM—M. A. Fowler, G
EXETER—*Hon. H. S. Northcote, C
GATESHEAD—*Hon. W. H. James, G
GLOUCESTER—*T. Robinson, G
GRANTHAM—H. Y. Lopes, C
GRAVESEND—D. Palmer, C
GREAT-YARMOUTH—J. M. Moorsom, G.
GRIMSBY—H. Josse, G
HALIFAX (2)—*J. Stansfield, G
HANLEY—*W. Woodall, G
HARTLEPOOL—*C. Furness, G
HASTINGS—*Wilson Noble, C
HEREFORD—W. H. Grenfell, G
HUDDERSFIELD—*W. Summers, G,
HULL, West—*C. H. Wilson, G
,, East—C. Smith, G
,, Central—*H. S. King, C
HYTHE—*Sir E. Watkin, U
IPSWICH (2)—*Sir C. Dalrymple, C, *Lord Elcho, C
KIDDERMINSTER—*A. F. Godson, C
KING'S LYNN—T. G. Bowles, C
LEEDS, North—*W. L. Jackson, C
,, East—*L. Gane, G
,, South—*Sir L. Playfair, G
,, West—*H. Gladstone, G
,, Central—G W. Balfour, C
LEICESTER (2)—*J. A. Picton, G, Sir J. Whitehead G
LINCOLN—W. Crosfield, G
LIVERPOOL, Exchange—*R. Neville, G
,, Abercromby—*W. F. Lawrence, C
,, Scotland—*T. P. O'Connor, P
,, Kirkdale—Sir G. E. Baden Powell, C
,, Everton—J. Willox, C
,, Toxteth, East—*Baron de Worms, C
,, Toxteth, West—R. P. Houston, C
,, Walton—J. H. Stock, C
,, West Derby—*Hon. W. H. Cross, C
MAIDSTONE— *F. S. W. Cornwallis, C
MANCHESTER, North-West—*Sir W. Houldsworth, C
,, North—C. E. Schwann, G
,, North-East—*Sir J. Fergusson, C
,, East—*A. J. Balfour, C
,, South—*Sir H. Rosco, G
,, South-West—*Jacob Bright, G
MIDDLESBRO'—*J. Wilson, G
MONMOUTH DIS—A. Spicer, G
MORPETH—*T. Burt, G
NEWCASTLE (2)—*J. Morley, G, C. F. Hamond, C
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME—W. S. Allen, G
NORTHAMPTON (2)—*H. Labouchere, G, *M. P Manfield, G
NORWICH (2)—*S. Hoare, C, *J. J. Colman, G
NOTTINGHAM, East—*A. Morley, G
,, West—*Col. Seely, U
,, South—*H. S. Wright, C
OLDHAM (2)—J. M. Cheetham, G, J. T. Hibbert, G
OXFORD—Gen. Sir G. Chesney, C
PENRYN and FALMOUTH—*W. G. C. Bentinck, C,
PETERBOROUGH—*A. C. Morton, G
PONTEFRACT—*Hon. R. Winn, C
PORTSMOUTH(2)—W. O. Clough, G, Ald. J. Baker, G

PRESTON (2)—*W. M. Tomlinson, C, *R. W. Hanbury, C
PLYMOUTH(2)—Sir E. Clarke, C, Sir W. Pearce, C
READING—G. W. Palmer, G
ROCHDALE—*T. B. Potter, G
ROCHESTER—Ald. Davies, C
ST. HELENS—*H. Seton Karr, C
SALFORD, North—W. H. Holland, G
" West—*Lees Knowles, C
" South—*H. H. Howorth, C
SALISBURY—*E. H. Hulse, C
SCARBOROUGH—Sir G. Sitwell, C
SHEFFIELD, Central—*Colonel Vincent, C
" Attercliffe—*Hon. B. Coleridge, G
" Brightside—*A. J. Mundella, G
" Hallam—*C. Stuart-Wortley, C
" Ecclesall—*Ashmead-Bartlett, C
SHREWSBURY—*H. D. Greene, C
SOUTH SHIELDS—J. C. Stevenson, G
SOUTHAMPTON (2)—*D. H. Evans, G, T. Chamberlayne, C
STAFFORD—C. E. Shaw, G
STALYBRIDGE—*T. H. Sidebottom, C
STOCKPORT (2)—*L. J. Jennings, C, J. Leigh, G
STOCKTON—T. Wrightson, C
STOKE—*Leveson Gower, G
SUNDERLAND (2)—*E. T. Gourley, *G, E. Storey, G
TAUNTON—*The Hon. P. Allsopp, C
TYNEMOUTH—*R. S. Donkin, C
WAKEFIELD—Colonel Charlesworth, C
WALSALL—F. James, C
WARRINGTON—R. Pierpoint, C
WARWICK—*A. W. Peel (Speaker)
WEDNESBURY—W. Lloyd, C
WEST BROMWICH—*J. E. Spencer, C
WHITEHAVEN—T. S. Little, G
WIGAN—*Sir F. S. Powell, C
WINDSOR—*F. T. Barry, C
WINCHESTER—W. H. Myers
WORCESTER—*Hon. G. H. Allsopp, C
WOLVERHAMPTON, S.—*C. P. Villiers, U
" West—Sir A. Hickman, C
" East—H. H. Fowler, G
YORK (2)—F. Lockwood, G, J. G. Butcher, C

UNIVERSITIES.

CAMBRIDGE (2)—Sir J. E. Gorst, C, *Professor Jebb, C
LONDON—*Sir J. Lubbock, U
OXFORD (2)—*Sir J. R. Mowbray, C, *J. G. Talbot, C

COUNTIES.

BEDS. N. (Biggleswade)—G. W. E. Russell, G
" S. (Luton)—*C. Flower, G
BERKS N. (Abingdon)—*P. Wroughton, C
" S. (Newbury)—*W. G. Mount, C
" E. (Wokingham)—Sir George Russell, C
BUCKS. N. (Buckingham)—*H. S. Leon, G
" S. (Wycombe)—*Viscount Curzon, C
" M. (Aylesbury)—Undecided
CAMB. N. (Wisbech)—Undecided
" W. (Chesterton)—H. E. Hoare, G
" E. (Newmarket)—*G. Newnes, G
CHESHIRE, Wirral—*Captain Cotton, C
" Macclesfield—*W. B. Davenport, C
" Crewe—*W. S. B. McLaren, G
" Eddisbury—H. J. Tollemache, C
" Knutsford—*Hon. A. T. Egerton, C
" Altrincham—Coningsby Disraeli, C
" Hyde—*J. W. Sidebotham, C
" Northwich—Undecided
CORNWALL, N.E. (Launceston)—T. Owen, G
" M. (St. Austell)—Undecided
" S.E. (Bodmin)—*L. Courtney, U
" N. Camborne—C. A. V. Conybeare, G
" Truro—J. C. Williams, U
" W. (St. Ives)—*T. B. Bolitho, U
CUMBERLAND, N. (Eskdale)—*R. Allison, G
" M. (Penrith)—*J. W. Lowther, C
" Cockermouth—Undecided
" W. (Egremont)—D. Ainsworth, G
DERBYSHIRE, N. (High Peak)—Undecided
" N.E. (Eckington)—*T. D. Bolton, G
" E. (Chesterfield)—T. Bayley, G
" M. (Belper)—*J. A. Jacoby, G
" S.E. (Ilkeston)—Undecided
" S. (Repton)—H. Evans Broad, G
" W. (Wirksworth)—*Hon. V. Cavendish, U
DEVONSHIRE, W. (Tavistock)—H. F. Luttrell, G
" S. (Totnes)—*F. Mildmay, U
" M. (Ashburton)—C. Seal Hayne, G
" (Torquay)—*R. Mallock, C
" N.E. (Tiverton)—Undecided
" N. (South Molton)—Undecided
" N.W. (Barnstaple)—A. Billson, G
" E. (Honiton)—*Sir J. Kennaway, C
DORSET, W. (Bridport)—*H. R. Farquharson, C
" S. (Dorchester)—*W. E. Brymer, C
" N. (Shaftesbury)—J. K. Digby, C
" E. (Poole)—*Hon. H. Sturt, C
DURHAM (Jarrow)—*Sir C. M. Palmer, G
" (Houghton-le-Spring)—Captain H. T. Fenwick, G
" (Chester-le-Street)—Undecided
" M. (Brancepeth)—Undecided
" N.W. (Lanchester)—A. Jones, G
" S.E. (North Tees)—J. Richardson, G
" (Bishop Auckland)—J. M. Paulton, G
" (Barnard Castle)—*Sir J. Pease, G
ESSEX, S.E. (Tilbury)—Major Resch, C
" S.W. (Walthamstow)—E. W. Byrne, C
" S. (Romford)—*J. Theobald, C
" N.W. (Epping)—Colonel M. Lockwood, C
" N. (Saffron Walder)—*H. Gardner, G
" N.E. (Harwich)—James Round, C
" E. (Malden)—C. Dodd, G
" M. (Chelmsford)—T. Usborne, C
GLOUCESTERSHIRE, E. (Cirencester)—*A. Winterbotham, G
" M. (Stroud)—D. B. Jones, G
" N. (Tewkesbury)—Sir J. E. Dorrington, C
" (Forest of Dean)—
" S. (Thornbury)—Undecided.
HAMPSHIRE, N. (Basingstoke)—*A. F. Jeffreys, C
" W. (Andover)—*W. W. B. Beach, C
" E. (Petersfield)—W. Wickham, C
" New Forest—Hon. J. S. Montagu, C
" S. (Fareham)—*Sir F. Fitzwygram, C
" Isle of Wight—*Sir R. E. Webster, C
HEREFORDSHIRE, N. (Leominster)—*J. Rankin, C
" S. (Ross)—M. Biddulph, U
HERTFORDSHIRE, N. (Hitchen)—J. R. Hudson, C
" E. (Hertford)—*Abel Smith, C
" M. (St. Albans)—Undecided
" W. (Watford)—*T. F. Halsey, C
HUNTS, S. (Huntingdon)—*Smith-Barry, C
" N. (Ramsey)—*Hon. A. E. Fellowes, C
KENT, N.W. (Dartford)—*Sir W. Hart-Dyke, C
" W. (Sevenoaks)—*H. W. Forster, C
" M. (Medway)—Major Warde, C
" S.W. (Tunbridge)—A. G. Boscawen, C
" S. (Ashford)—
" N.E. (Faversham)—H. T. Knatchbull Hugessen, C
" E. (St. Augustines)—*A. Akers Douglas, C
" Isle of Thanet—*J. Lowther, C
N. LANCASHIRE, Blackpool—*Sir M. W. Ridley, C
" Chorley—*General Feilden, C
" Lancaster—*J. Williamson, G
" N. Lonsdale—Ald. Smith, G
N.E. LANCASHIRE, Darwen—C. P. Huntington, G
" Accrington—J. F. Leese, G
" Clitheroe—*Sir K. Shuttleworth, G
" Rossendale—*J. H. Maden, G
S.E. LANCASHIRE, W. Houghton—Colonel Hon. E. Stanley, C
" Eccles—*H. F. Roby, G
" Middleton—C. H. Hopwood, G
" Radcliffe-cum-Farnworth—*R. Leake, G
" Heywood—T. Snape, G
" Stretford—*J. W. Maclure, C
" Gorton—*W. Mather, G
" Prestwich—*R. G. C. Mowbray, C
S.W. LANCASHIRE—Southport—*Hon. G. Curzon, C,
" Newton—T. W. Legh, C
" Ince—S. Woods, G
" Leigh—Caleb Wright, G
" Ormskirk—*A. B. Forwood, C
" Bootle—*Major Sandys, C
" Widnes—*F. S. Gilliatt, C
LEICESTERSHIRE, N. (Loughborough)—J. Ferguson, G
" E. (Melton)—*Lord Granby, C
" S. (Market Harborough)—*J. W. Logan, G
" W. (Bosworth)—Undecided
LINCOLNSHIRE, W. Lindsey (Gainsborough)—J. Bennett, G
" N. do. (Brigg)—*S. D. Waddy, G
" E. do. (Louth)—Undecided
" S. do. (Horncastle)—*The Hon. E. Stanhope, C
" M. Kesteven (Sleaford)—*H. Chaplin, C
" S. do. (Stamford)—*H. J. C. Cust, C
" Holland (Spalding)—*H. Stewart, G
MIDDLESEX, Enfield—
" Tottenham—*J. Howard, C
" Hornsey—*H. C. Stephens, C
" Harrow—*W. Ambrose, C
" Ealing—*Lord G. Hamilton, C
" Brentford—*J. Bigwood, C
" Uxbridge—*F. Dixon-Hartland, C
MONMOUTHSHIRE, N. (Abergavenny)—*T. P. Price, G
" W. (Bedwelty)—Undecided
" S. (Chepstow—*Hon. F. C. Morgan, C
NORFOLK, N.W. (Freebridge)—F. Arch, G
" S.W. (Thetford)—Undecided
" N. (Aylsham)—Undecided
" E. (N. Walsham)—R. Price, G
" M. (Dereham)—C. Higgins, G
" S. (Diss)—*F. Taylor, U
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, N. (Oundle)—*Lord Burghley C
" E. (Wellingboro)—F. A. Channing, C
" (Brixworth)—*Hon. C. R. Spencer, G
" S. (Towcester)—H. Guthrie, G
NORTHUMBERLAND, M. (Wansbeck)—C. Fenwick, G
" (Tyneside)—J. A. Pease, G
" W. (Hexham)—N. G. Clayton, C
" N. (Berwick)—*Sir E. Grey, G
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, N. (Bassetlaw)—*Sir F. Milner, C
" E. (Newark)—
" S. (Rushcliffe)—*J. E. Ellis, G
" W. (Mansfield)—*J. Carvell Williams G
OXFORDSHIRE, S. (Henley)—*Hon F. Parker, C
" M. (Woodstock)—G. R. Benson, G
" N. (Banbury)—*Sir B. Samuelson, G
RUTLAND—*G. Finch C
SHROPSHIRE, W. (Oswestry)—*S. Leighton, C
" N. (Newport)—*Colonel K. Slaney, C
" M. (Wellington)—*A. H Brown, U
" S. (Ludlow)—*Jasper More, U
SOMERSETSHIRE, N. (Long Ashton)—J. C. Warner, G
" Wells—*Sir R. H. Paget, C
" Frome—J. C. Berlow, G
" E. Shepton (Mallet)—Undecided
" S. (Yeovil)—*E. Strachey, G
" M. (Bridgewater)—*E. J Stanley, C
" W. (Wellington)—Captain Acland Hood, C
STAFFORDSHIRE, N.E. (Leek)—C. Bill, C
" E. (Burton)—*S. Evershed, G
" W. (Penkridge)—H. A. Bass, U
" N.W. (Pirehill)—
" (Lichfield)—Undecided
" S.W. (Kingswinford)—A. S. Staveley Hill, C
" (Handsworth)—Undecided
SUFFOLK, N. (Lowestoft)—H. S. Foster, C
" N.E. (Eye)—*F. S. Stevenson, G
" N.W. (Stowmarket)—S. J. Stern, G
" S.W. (Sudbury)—*W. C. Quilter, U
" S.E. (Woodbridge)—R. L. Everett, G
SURREY, M. (Epsom)—T. Bucknill, C
" S.E. (Reigate)—H. Cubitt, U
" N. (Kingston)—Undecided
" N.E. (Wimbledon)—*H. C. Bonsor, C
" N.W. (Chertsey)—H. Combe, C
" S.W. (Guildford)—*Hon S. J. Brodrick, C
SUSSEX N.W. (Horsham)—Undecided
" S.W. (Chichester)—*Lord W. G. Lennox, C
" N. (East Grinstead)—*Hon. A. Gathorne-Hardy, C,
" M. (Lewes)—*Sir H. Fletcher, C
" S. (Eastbourne)—*Admiral Field, C
" E. (Rye)—*A. M. Brookfield, C
WARWICKSHIRE N. (Tamworth)—*P. A. Muntz, C
" N.E. (Nuneaton)—F. A. Newdegate, C
" S.W. (Stratford-on-Avon)—A. F. Mitford, C
" S.E. (Rugby)—*H. P. Cobb, G
WESTMORELAND, S. (Kendal)—Captain Bagot, C
" N. (Appleby)—Sir J. Savory, C
WILTSHIRE, N. (Cricklade)—J. Husband, G
" N.W. (Chippenham)—Sir J. D. Poynder, C
" W. (Westbury)—*G. P. Fuller, G
" E. (Devizes)—C. E. Hobhouse, G
" S. (Wilton)—Undecided
WORCESTERSHIRE, W. (Bewdley)—A. Baldwin, C
" S. (Evesham)—Sir E. Lechmere, C
" M. (Droitwich)—R. B. Martin, U
" N. (Oldbury)—Undecided
" E. (King's Norton)—A. Chamberlain, U
YORKSHIRE, E. RIDING, Holderness—*Commander Bethell, C
" Buckrose—
" Howdenshire—W. Wilson Todd, C

,, N. Riding, Thirsk—J. G. Lawson, C
,, Richmond—*G. W. Elliot, C
,, Whitby—*E. W. Beckett, C
,, Cleveland—H. F. Pease, G
W. Riding, E. Division, Ripon—*J. L. Wharton, C,
,, Otley—*J. Barran, G
,, Barkston Ash—Colonel Gunter, C
,, Pudsey—*B. Priestley, G
,, Osgoldcross—*J. Austin, G
,, Spen Valley—T. P. Whittaker, G
W. Riding, N. Division, Skipton—C. S. Roundell, G
,, Elland—*Alderman T. Wayman, G
,, Keighley—T. Holden, G
,, Shipley—Undecided.
,, Sowerby—Undecided
W. Riding, S. Division, Morley—A. E. Hutton, G
,, Normanton—*B. Pickard, G
,, Colne Valley—Sir J. Kitson, G
,, Holmfirth—H. J. Wilson, G
,, Barnsley—Undecided.
,, Hallamshire—*Sir F. T. Mappin, G
,, Rotherham—*A. H. Acland, G
,, Doncaster—C. J. Fleming, G

WALES.

BOROUGHS.

Cardiff—*Sir E. J. Reed, G
Carmarthen—Major Jones, G
Carnarvon—*D. Lloyd George, G
Denbigh—*Hon. G. Kenyon, C
Flint—J. H. Lewis, G
Merthyr Tydvil (2)—*W. P. Morgan, G, D. A. Thomas, G
Montgomery—Sir Pryce Jones, C
Pembroke—E. Allen, G
Swansea, Town—R. D. Barnie, G
,, District—*Sir H. H. Vivian, G

SCOTLAND.

BOROUGHS.

Aberdeen, North—*Professor Hunter, G
,, South—*Professor Bryce, G
Ayr Burghs—
Dumfries Burghs—*R. T. Reid, G
Dundee (2)—*J. Leng, G, *E. Robertson, G
Edinburgh, Central—*W. M'Ewan, G
,, West—Lord Wolmer, U
,, East—*Dr. Wallace, G
,, South—H. Paul, G
Elgin Burghs—*A. Asher, G
Falkirk Burghs—H. Smith, G
Glasgow, Central—*J. G. A. Baird, C
,, Bridgeton—*Sir G. Trevelyan, G
,, Camlachie—A. Cross, U
,, St. Rollox—Sir J. Carmichael, G
,, Blackfriars—*A. D. Provand, G
,, College—*C. Cameron, G
,, Tradeston—*A. C. Corbett, U
Greenock—J. Bruce, G
Hawick, &c.—T. Shaw, G
Inverness—
Kilmarnock—*S. Williamson, G
Kirkcaldy—J. Dalziel, G
Leith—*R. M. Ferguson, G
Montrose—*J. S. Will, G
Paisley—*W. Dunn, G
Perth—*W. Whitelaw, C
St. Andrew's—*H. T. Anstruther, U
Stirling—*H. Campbell Bannerman, G
Wick—

IRELAND.

BOROUGHS.

Belfast, E.—G. W. Wolff, C
,, N.—Sir E. Hartland, C
,, S.—W. Johnston, C
,, W.—H. O. A. Forster, U.L
Cork—W. Obrien, A-P
,, M. Healy, A-P
Dublin, College-Green—Dr. J. E. Kenny, P
Dublin, Harbour—T. Harrington, P
,, St. Patrick's—W. Field, P
,, St. Stephen's Green—W. Kenny, C
Galway—J. Pinkerton, A-P
Kilkenny—T. Curran, A-P
Limerick—F. A. O'Keefe, A-P
Londonderry—J. Ross, C
Newry—P. G. Carvill, A-P
Waterford—J. E. Redmond, P.

ARTS AND LETTERS.

Mr. Sims Reeves has, it is stated, joined the teaching staff of the Guildhall School of Music, and a class will be formed for him there directly after Mr. Joseph Barnby assumes the duties of Principal in September. Some years ago, in the late Mr. Weist Hill's time, Mr. Reeves expressed his willingness to give his services upon certain conditions which then could not be complied with; but all difficulties have been removed, and he will now become one of the chief singing professors of the school. His son, Mr. Herbert Reeves, is already a professor of the same institution.

A rival is about to start to the Opéra Comique in Paris. M. Léon Detroyat is about to take the field against M. Carvalho with a new venture, the Théâtre Lyrique, which will have its headquarters at the Théâtre de la Renaissance. The repertory will include two novelties, *Carmosine*, by the late M. Poise, and *Le Flibustier*, by the Russian composer, César Cui, the French libretto to which will be furnished by M. Jean Richepin. Negotiations are already in progress with Mdme. Sigrid Arnoldson with a view to her creating the principal parts in these two operas.

The Committee which undertook the purchase and maintenance of Dove Cottage, Grasmere, in which the Wordsworths lived for so long, report that the experiment has been in every way a success. The number of visitors during the summer months averages about eighty a week. But already the money obtained from admissions is sufficient to make the scheme self-supporting. Various interesting gifts have been received by the Committee, among others two portraits of Wordsworth and one of De Quincey, some chairs with woolwork seats bearing Dorothy Wordsworth's initials, a four-post bed, said on good authority to have been used by Wordsworth.

The tablet to the late Earl of Lytton is to take the form of a medallion tablet in the scrypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the work has been intrusted to Mr. Alfred Gilbert, A.R.A.

The site of the memorial of the late Bishop Goodwin in Carlisle Cathedral has now been definitely settled. The recumbent effigy will be placed on the first arch of the south aisle, and will be of bronze. The sculptor is Mr. Hamo Thornycroft.

Mdme. Viardot Gracia has presented Mozart,s MS. of the opera "Don Giovanni" to the Paris Conservatoire.

Sir Arthur Sullivan's *Ivanhoe* is to be the first novelty at the Royal Opera House, Berlin, in October. The rehearsals will be under the direction of Capellmeister Sucher.

The directors of the Grafton Galleries propose to inaugurate these galleries by an exhibition of modern pictures, both English and foreign. The buildings, which are between Grafton-street and Bruton-street, are now on the high road to completion, and the first exhibition will take place at the end of November or early in December. The collection will not be a loan collection, but will be one of works contributed by living artists.

The following information has been furnished by Countess Leon Tolstoi regarding the health of her husband, the well-known writer:—"The Count is never altogether well now. He has not regained his strength since his last gastric attack, and his activity amongst the distressed peasantry tires him more than it did in the winter, and allows him no opportunity of resting and recruiting. There is again a good deal of distress in many of the villages in the district, and help is still distributed to the needy by means of the free kitchens previously established.

Correspondence.

SCHOOL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Sir,—The elementary schools of this parish were made free on September 1, 1891, after consulting the parents of the children attending the schools as to whether they would voluntarily contribute to the schools if relieved from the payment of school pence; and it is just possible some of your readers may like to know what the result has been so far.

From September 1 to June 25, 1892, the small weekly subscriptions have amounted to £77 5s. 10d., and there is no appearance of falling off.

The parents were consulted as to the manner in which the subscriptions could best be gathered, and it was decided that the most simple way was to send the subscription to the school. A register is kept of all sums so subscribed and an account given to the managers monthly.

There is no set day for receiving the subscriptions, they are taken when and how it may be convenient to those who send them.

The schools seat 960 children, and are well attended.

The Bishop of Manchester suggested the plan to school managers, and here it has been followed.

Surely there is no need to go to the rates when the people are so willing to subscribe. To go to the rates would at once destroy the independent character of our Church schools, and it is to be hoped the agitation for help from the rates may cease. C. T. WATSON.

Lower Broughton, Manchester, July 2.

MR. GLADSTONE AND SLAVERY.

Sir,—In a speech delivered at the Music Hall, Edinburgh, June 30, 1892, Mr. Gladstone spoke as follows:—"I painfully reflect that in almost every one, if not in every one, of the great controversies of the last fifty years, whether they affected commerce, whether they affected the bad and abominable institution of slavery, or whatever subject they touched, these leisured classes, these educated classes, these wealthy classes, these titled classes, have been in the wrong." I am specially concerned as to the attitude of Mr. W. E. Gladstone himself towards two important measures of philanthropic reform of this century. I allude to the Ten Hours Bill and the Bill for emancipating the slaves in the West Indies. Let me describe Mr. W. E. Gladstone's attitude to these measures in the words of that noblest and truest of England's philanthropists—Lord Shaftesbury, who says:—"He (Mr. Gladstone) gave me no support in the Ten Hours Bill; he voted with Sir R. Peel to rescind a famous decision in favour of it. He was the only member who endeavoured to delay the Bill which delivered women and children from mines and pits; and never did he say a word on behalf of factory children until when defending slavery in the West Indies he taunted Buxton with indifference to the slavery in England."

Yours, &c.,

July 11. LUKE vi., 41.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE CHURCH OF ROME.

Sir,—I have just read once more, with renewed interest and conviction, the pamphlet of 1874 by Mr. Gladstone, *The Vatican Decrees in their bearing upon Civil Allegiance*. I cannot advise those who wish to keep pace with this great statesman with comfort and ease of mind thus to refresh their memories; but there is some danger that warnings in themselves weighty and salutary may be kept in the background just when their author has brought about the crisis which makes them of vital importance.

Of the charge of bigotry, so freely alleged at this time against those who anticipate danger from the Roman Catholic priesthood in Ireland Mr. Gladstone himself ought to acquit us. To borrow his own admirable language, "We desire to eschew not only religious bigotry but theological controversy; indeed, with theology, except in its civil bearing, with theology as such, we have nothing whatever to do. But it is the peculiarity of Roman theology that, by thrusting itself into the temporal domain, it naturally, and even necessarily, comes to be a frequent theme of political discussion." (*Vatican Decrees*, &c., p. 5.)

Mr. Gladstone's "third proposition" in this noteworthy document is that "no one can now become a convert to Rome without forfeiting his moral and mental freedom and placing his loyalty and civil duty at the mercy of another." What is true of converts is true of those who, as born in the Roman communion, have had no

need of conversion; except, indeed, that these cannot be said to have forfeited that which, at any rate since the Vatican decrees of 1870, they have never possessed. Therefore, from Mr. Gladstone's masterly exposition of his own thesis, it follows that he would now place the interests of the Protestant minority in Ireland in the hands of a majority which is "without mental or moral freedom, and whose loyalty and civil duty are at the mercy of another."

I have no space to detail the many proofs which Mr. Gladstone accumulates of the wide extent of the Papal claims at the present time. He complains, however, that, whereas this nation and Parliament were fed in 1826 with ample assurances in which "the full and undivided rights of the civil power were well and roundly affirmed," all this has now been undone, and that the Pontiff now claims as his province every part of human life worth discussing and "the supreme direction of us with respect to all duty." He instances as possible grounds of conflict between Church and State such questions as marriage, burial, education, prison discipline, blasphemy, and poor relief, and he reminds us that in 1864 it was declared a damnable doctrine to affirm that "a marriage, not sacramentally contracted, had a binding force." If these terrors are not the merest bugbears, why were they suggested in 1874, when we could, for the time being, despise them, and why does Mr. Gladstone, who then did his best to give them shape and substance, forget them now, when he is preparing to establish a Legislature in which the men upon whom every kind of Papal influence may be brought directly or indirectly to bear, will be a dominant and permanent majority?

But these warnings were not absolutely chimerical even in 1874. No statesman, for a chimera, invites the "displeasure, indignation, and even fury," which Mr. Gladstone (p. 4) tells us were expressed here and there on the publication of this pamphlet. These sources of mischief were indicated because it was felt that, even in England, they might come within the sphere of practical politics. And what were the assurances which in 1874 Mr. Gladstone offered us, to quiet the fears which he had himself suggested? They were that, "although conversions to Roman Catholicism had been numerous in the upper classes of society," the rumours of a corresponding movement in the mass were not borne out by figures; that we are entitled to expect (although we may be partially disappointed) that the Roman Catholics of this country should do in the nineteenth century what their forefathers of England, except a handful of emissaries, did in the sixteenth, &c.; and, finally, that "the inhabitants of these islands, as a whole, are stable, though somewhat credulous and excitable; resolute, though somewhat boastful; and a strongheaded and soundhearted race will not be hindered, either by latent or by avowed dissents, due to the foreign influence of a caste, from the accomplishment of its mission in the world." All this to show that Mr. Gladstone regretted nothing and recanted nothing of what the Liberal party had accomplished by word and deed in establishing the full civil equality of Roman Catholics. It was a lame and impotent conclusion; worthy, not of a great statesman, but of Mrs. Micawber. Nobody expected Mrs. Micawber to recant her marriage vows; nobody expected Mr. Gladstone to renounce the principle that all civil rights were to be bestowed irrespective of creed. But our one real and sufficient safeguard was then, as now, that as long as the great mass of the British people acknowledged no allegiance to the Pope the claims of the Papacy, whatever they might be, were a negligable factor in our politics, arrogant enough to amuse, but impotent to harm us.

It is Mr. Gladstone himself who has given point to his own warnings, and made the dangers, which at the date of his pamphlet were only remote, so near and present. It is he who would concentrate the power, which he knows to be harmless only because it is counteracted by healthier influences in the great political system of the United Kingdom, by cutting away from the rest the elements of the whole population which are least "stable" and most "excitable," most "open to the foreign influence of a caste." It is he who would set the house on fire by way of demonstrating this lecture of his on the possibilities of combustion. And what safeguards can he provide us which will in the least degree atone for this, which he has himself taught us to recognise as a wanton piece of mischief? He tells us in effect, "You need not be afraid if I do set fire to the house; I shall have my patent fire-escape fixed, my patent fire-extinguishing liquid mixed; there is no real danger." It is easy to foresee that, when the moment comes, we shall have the empiric of the old comedy upon the stage once more, the patent fire-escape not fixed, the patent fire-extinguishing liquid not mixed, himself "never at a loss," yet not knowing exactly what to do.

Mr. Gladstone reassured us in 1874 by telling us that Roman Catholicism was making no solid progress in England. What reassuring counsels does he now offer us with respect to Ireland, where Roman Catholicism has always been the religion of the masses? He tells us that French and Italian electors, the vast majority of whom are Catholics only in name, are not submissive to ecclesiastical influences, by way of demonstrating that the most ardent Romanists in the world will exhibit the same *insouciance*, and that those who do believe and obey their priests will act in the same way as those who do not.

Instructed by the Mr. Gladstone of 1874, we may, if we are not wise in time, fairly anticipate complications in Ireland, for which the Mr. Gladstone of to-day will be in every sense responsible; complications with which a Bismarck, in the vigour of his manhood, would have been unable to grapple, but which will have to be faced now, in the decadence of his physical and mental powers, by a statesman who has at all times been more successful in following than in controlling the tendencies of his generation, more copious in exposition and apology than prompt to rescue the deserted and the overwhelmed. Less decorous executioners will finish what Mr. Gladstone has begun; *Jean qui rit* will succeed to *Jean qui pleure*; for awhile somewhat prolix moralisings, and then somewhat vulgar pleasantries will be offered to alleviate the death throes of loyal Ireland.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
MEMOR.

THE CHURCH AND POLITICS.

Sir,—Whatever may be the result of the general election, it would be more favourable, had our clergy used their legitimate influence, both in the pulpit and by the broadcast circulation of pamphlets and books, in spreading information respecting the history of the Church in our land, its origin, and its work.

The subject, handled as it may be, unobtrusively as regards politics generally, would necessarily involve considerations tending to the promotion of our national interests.

I fully endorse the high commendation given in *Church Bells*, by Canon Venables (late of Great Yarmouth), of a recent publication, *The Church and Her Story*, by G. H. F. Nye, author of a previous and more elementary work, *A Popular Story of the Church of England*. "I heartily wish," he says, "that during this month every man possessing the franchise would read this work with unprejudiced mind, and then determine whether to vote for men who would destroy that Church, or otherwise."

The suggestion I have here made, uttered by many a Cassandra aforetime, may now be repeated too late for the impending election; but, *under any immediate event*, it should be widely and perseveringly acted upon. Happily Mr. Nye's book, as I have just been informed, has had an extraordinary sale, and I am especially pleased to hear that an edition is in contemplation for school use; for it is of the utmost importance for the nation as well as for the Church that the rising generation should be well instructed in this most interesting and, in its bearings upon the Constitution, most vital subject.

Yours faithfully,
EDWD. H. NELSON,
July 12, 1892. Rector of Necton, Norfolk.

Now that the new Clergy Discipline Act has come into force the rumour is renewed, says the *Manchester Guardian*, that Lord Penzance has decided to resign the Deanery of Arches. "He has reached an age when he might justly seek rest after the labours of a peculiarly busy life, and the new Act will considerably increase the business in his court. The practice, too, will be different from that to which he has been accustomed, and although the greatest care is being taken with the rules, which are now in process of being drafted, there must inevitably be great difficulty at first in making the new machinery work properly. It will be remembered that some of the earlier suits under the Public Worship Regulation Act proved abortive, because certain technicalities had not been complied with. The question of a successor to Lord Penzance is one which will give the Archbishops, with whom the appointment primarily rests, some difficulty. The experiment of making a Divorce Court judge Dean of the Arches, is not likely to be repeated."

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics appearing in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on July 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(JULY, 1892.)

1. G	AM	P
2. R	IG	I
3. A	LGEBR	A
4. N	ATHA	N
5. D	ID	O

Solutions have been received from E.A.F., Vectis, Noryb, Dunstan, Hadji, White Hat, Chameleon, Chevy Chase, Garbir, Mitz, and M.A.E.B.

MARCH TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Sociable and Chelmsford, who remain competing.

APRIL TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from The Griffin, E.V.P., and Boozlewax, who remain competing.

MAY TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Molly, Robin, and Ancient Briton, who remain competing.

The June Prize has been won by
Mrs. Gardner (Hadji),
St. Michael's Vicarage,
Louth, Lincolnshire.

DUNSTON.—Libel does not answer the light.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(JULY, 1892.)

PROEM.

Ah, little they recked, for my first as they fought,
That dismember'd, my second must soon come to nought.

1.

A mighty power in Church and State.

2.

A busy worker early and late.

3.

A lake, which, under far off skies,
Mid ruined scenery henceforth lies.

4.

A shelter, and a wine also.

5.

This river names a town, you know.

The old Rolls Chapel, which was founded about the year 1233 by King Henry III., will not be demolished in the building alterations now going on at Rolls-yard, Chancery-lane, but the ancient edifice will, we understand, be converted into a kind of museum.

Statistics just published by the Fishery Board for Scotland show that the total value of fish returned as landed on the coasts of Scotland during the month of June was £164,690.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JULY 16.

Mr. H. M. Stanley does not appear to hold a very high opinion of Mr. Gladstone. Speaking at a meeting in Cheshire in support of the candidature of Mr. Coningsby Disraeli, he said:—"Mr. Gladstone led his party with a sort of tyrannical hand, and, according to his (Mr. Stanley's) knowledge of present Liberals, he knew they would bow down at his feet and accept every word he said as gospel. Not satisfied with having deserted the Conservatives for the Liberals, Mr. Gladstone had deserted the Liberals for the Home Rulers. After a few months he turned round and deserted his ally, Mr. Parnell. He sent Gordon to the Soudan, and, as they knew, he soon deserted him. He took up the cause of the Soudan, and presently he deserted the Soudan, so that those changes, if they would look at them, were only the precursors of the greatest change of all. He was tired of enduring so long in life without some remarkable sensation which would send a shiver through this empire from one end of the country to the other, and that sensation was caused in 1886, when he left a party of sixty-eight of his best friends in order to get eighty-six gentlemen from Ireland on his side. If they all acknowledged that he was a great debater, and that there was no living man who could come up to him for eloquent speech, he was yet quite sure that there were many in that audience of his own opinion, that if he was eloquent there was not much wisdom to be found in it, neither was there much judgment or discretion in what he said. He (Mr. Stanley) remembered that when he came out of Africa after his last expedition there was a great international conference being held at Brussels for the purpose or doing away with every vestige of slavery under the control of civilisation, and an agreement was finally drawn up which was to exterminate the slave trade. The agreement provided that it was the duty of any civilised nation which took possession of territory in Africa to make roads, and especially railroads, in order to do away with any pretext for employing slave labour. The representative of Great Britain had put their hands and seals to that agreement. Germany, France, Italy, Portugal, and Belgium—which countries had acquired territory in Africa—had all done their share towards this work, but when Mr. Balfour and Mr. Lowther asked for the sum of £20,000 in order to make a survey—a sum which any philanthropist might have given easily—Mr. Gladstone led the way in an attack upon the Government for acknowledging that the time had come when something should be done towards exterminating slavery within British territory in Africa. A few months ago he was sitting opposite to Mr. Gladstone delivering a little lecture as to the possibilities of the block of Africa which Great Britain had taken under her wing. A question arose between himself and Mr. Gladstone as to a certain harbour which he pointed out. He looked at the old gentleman, and he saw it was not safe to argue with him so he bowed and passed on with his lecture. Finally a question arose as to the M'Kinnon and Gordon-Bennett mountains, and again he found that it would not do to argue with him. Frequently he had had the chance of talking with Mr. Gladstone, but he had found that it would not do to try to bring him round to take another view of things, and that was the reason he was so obdurate, so obstinate, and so persistent in that one idea of his, the Home Rule Bill, which he had clung to with a maniac persistence."

In connection with the efforts frequently made to influence party passion, especially in the Metropolis, in connection with the taxation of ground rents, it must be borne in mind that registered friendly societies have invested more than £1,000,000 in land, offices, and buildings, and £5,380,000 in mortgages and other real securities, and that the investments, other than in trade, of the ordinary co-operative societies are about £5,800,000, and of this a considerable portion is invested in lands and buildings.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer further declared in the House of Commons, on May 30, 1892:—"That in addition to their investment by the working classes of £12,180,000 in building values, there is no doubt that other societies and companies whose income is derived from the contributions of the industrial classes have large sums invested in real property."

It is noteworthy also that the Select Committee, appointed on February 25, 1892, to inquire "Into the question of imposing a direct assessment on the owners of ground rents and on the owners of increased values imparted to land by building operations or other improvements," and on which ten Gladstonians and three Liberal Unionists served has reported:—

"*(a)* That ground rents are already taxed as being included in the rateable value of the town holding on which they are secured. They do not constitute a fresh matter of assessment hitherto untouched, as is often supposed. The imposition of a direct assessment upon such ground rents, as distinguished from the assessed value of the house itself, as at present rated, would lead to anomalies and inequalities and has been generally abandoned.

"*(b)* That the real, as opposed to the apparent, incidence of local taxation in towns fall partly upon the owner of the land, partly upon the house owner, and partly upon the occupier. The proportions in which the burden is distributed are difficult to determine and depend upon a variety of circumstances, among which the demand for and supply of houses is the most important.

"*(c)* Owners of ground rents, with or without reversions, derive no appreciable benefit from local public expenditure for current purposes. Those who have no reversions derive no appreciable benefit from the expenditure on the permanent public improvements. The benefit to other ground-rent owners from permanent improvements is sometimes inappreciable, and sometimes substantial, varying according to the proximity of the reversion.

"*(d)* The burden of such increased local taxation as was not in contemplation of the parties on entering into leases falls on the lessee, unless the occupier has been unable to shift it. But, as regards lessees, the unforeseen increase in the value of their properties has, in most cases, more than made up to them for the unexpected burden of increased rate.

"*(e)* The proposals made to the committee for a distinct annual assessment on reversions, according to their present values, and for the separate assessment on ground values and building values are impracticable.

"*(f)* The proposal to rate vacant building land on its capital value is a total departure from the existing basis of local taxation, and would be practically very difficult in operation. The proposal to rate reversions upon their present values is also open to the same objections."

Discussing the famine in Russia, a writer in the *North American Review* says:—"The distress is something beyond description. Without attempting to picture the pathetic scenes which are reported by every observer, it may be possible to indicate something of the nature and degree of the suffering. To the Russian peasant the yearly crop is everything. He saves little or nothing, but one harvest carries him to the next. The crop means not merely food but clothing, fuel, fodder, taxes, farm necessities, and all the requirements of his simple life. When it fails everything fails with it. It is terrible enough to think of 14,000,000 of people on the brink of starvation and saved only by outside relief. But this is only one element of the misery. To the pangs of hunger have been added the hardships of a bitter winter. The season has been the coldest for many years, and it has been difficult to procure material even for the scanty fire that serves to keep the peasant warm. The house of the Russian peasant is a rude structure, generally of a single room, of which the most conspicuous object is the great brick stove or oven in the centre. Little heat is sufficient to heat the pile of bricks, and the shrivering inmates gather around it and lie on the loft above it. But this year there is a famine of fuel as well as of food. The steppes are barren of trees, broad regions are remote from forests, and the ordinary fuel is straw. The drought was equally fatal to this supply, and in many cases the peasants were compelled to huddle together, several families in a single cottage, and to tear up the thatched roofs of abandoned homes, to cut up the planks of empty barns, to seize even upon the wooden ploughs and everything that would burn, in order to keep from freezing. Then there is besides a famine of clothing. The garments of the peasant are of home-spun flax with a sheepskin overcoat. But the crop of flax failed like every other, and through the long winter nights there has been none to spin. In many instances the sheepskin was sacrificed in the early autumn for bread; the frail, coarse-woven suits were thin and worn; and thus most of the family were compelled to remain within doors, while from the meagre and battered wardrobe of all a variegated costume was improvised, so that one of the number could sally forth for food. It was not an uncommon spectacle to see a wan, pale, hollow-cheeked girl presenting herself at the soup-kitchen in the ragged coat of her father, in the ancient boots of her mother, and with some sort of coarse sacking for her only dress. Anything more pitiable could hardly be imagined than these woful sufferers, without food, without fuel, without clothing, without work, almost without hope, but never without patience."

"Yet, unhappily, there is more to be added. Where there was no bread it was necessary to find a substitute. The "hunger-food," used especially in some of the remote sections, is a compound which is altogether revolting. It is variously made up of wild arroch, straw, leaves, bark, ground acorns, a bit of potato, sometimes with a little rye flour and sometimes without it. The constituents differ in different places. Visitors to the famine region have brought specimens of this "hunger-bread" to St. Petersburg; and it has touched every heart that fellow-men could be reduced to such extreme necessity. The use of such a diet and the scantiness of all food could not fail to induce disease. In some of the famine provinces there has been no typhus, but in others it rages as an epidemic. In Tamboff there are only sporadic cases, while in parts of Samara and Kazan the inmates of every other house are prostrate. The Buguluk district, where the situation is at the worst, has 80,000 inhabitants and only one doctor. In several sections the death-rate has been 50 per cent. higher than the normal, and there are localities where the mortality has increased several fold."

Speaking of the exertions to relieve the famine-stricken people, we are told:—"The appeal to personal philanthropy has brought out noble examples of generosity and devotion. The proprietary class have, as a rule, in this emergency, proved worthy of their position and responsibilities. There are single families taking care of as many as twenty thousand people. The women especially have come forward with a consecration and self-sacrifice which commands admiration. If it were not invidious or indelicate, many cases might be cited of ladies of gentle birth who have left their homes, braved the dangers of disease, faced the hardships of an unaccustomed and trying life, and given up weeks and months to the work of feeding the hungry and ministering to the sick. With much that has been deplorable, there have been also in this work many exhibitions of true nobility. One other thing ought in fairness to be said. The Emperor has been published abroad as indifferent. It is only just to remark that this peculiar kind of indifference has been manifested not merely in a vigorous direction of the later governmental operations of relief, even to the summary dismissal of inefficient agents, but in gifts from his private purse, which, if the belief of St. Petersburg can be accepted, amount to fifteen or twenty times all the contributions of all the world outside of Russia."

The profession of diplomacy may some centuries hence, a recent writer in the *Quarterly Review* thinks, be destined to disappear. So *à fortiori* must that of Queen's Messenger. Meantime the Queen's Messenger service is indispensable, and some particulars

respecting it may be of interest. There are two branches of the Queen's Messenger service—the Home Service and the Foreign Service. The duties of the former being merely to convey despatch-boxes and letters to and from the Palace, and from house to house of various officials, they are naturally on an entirely different footing from the Foreign Service Messengers. The number of Queen's Foreign Service Messengers has varied from time to time: from sixteen towards the close of last century to eighteen during the period marked by the international difficulties which culminated in the Crimean War. Since then the number has been gradually reduced to ten, which is the present strength of the corps. The emoluments attaching to the office cannot be said to be excessively liberal. The pay of a Queen's Messenger is £400 a year, with an allowance of £1 per diem for subsistence whilst on actual duty, all travelling expenses being of course paid by Government. A messenger may perhaps be engaged on actual service during rather less than half of the days in each year, reckoning annual holidays and the intervals between each journey abroad, so that he would thus receive, under the head of subsistence allowance, an annual addition to his salary of something like £150, making the total emoluments of the post about £550 a year. In addition to this may be reckoned the advantage of a pension on retirement from active service.

The regulations for the service prescribe very particularly the colour and cut of clothes to be worn. "The messengers must be provided with a uniform consisting of a dark-blue cloth double-breasted frock-coat, with turn-down collar; blue single-breasted waistcoat, buttoned up to the throat, with edging of gold-lace; trousers of Oxford mixture, with a scarlet cord down the side seams; gilt buttons embossed with the Royal cypher, encircled by the crown and garter, and having a greyhound pendant; blue cloth cap with leather peak, band of black braid, and the Royal cypher and crown gilt in front; and a badge of the regulation size with the Royal crown and silver greyhound pendant, suspended from the neck by a dark-blue riband." The regulations add that this uniform, and more especially the badge, must be always worn by messengers when travelling, but we fancy that this injunction is more honoured in the breach than in the observance. Railways have now made the journeys of Queen's messengers quite holiday trips. It was different in the old days, when lengthy and adventurous journeys on horseback were common incidents in the messenger's life: "One of the most famous of these journeys was that of Colonel Townley from Belgrade to Constantinople, performed under circumstances of great personal discomfort, in an incredibly short space of time. It called forth high commendation from Lord Palmerston in a speech in the House of Commons in 1850:—'As a proof of the zeal with which these Royal messengers render their services to the Government of this country, I would mention an instance in which one of these gentlemen performed his duty on on occasion when it was required that he should make an extraordinary effort in order to carry a despatch of very considerable importance from the Foreign Office to Constantinople, at a time when a question was pending between Russia and Turkey, who was three days and nights in the saddle without quitting it, and performed the journey in the worst weather, and under the greatest possible difficulties.' But even this extraordinary journey was beaten shortly afterwards by Mr. (now Sir Henry) Layard, who, though not a Queen's messenger, performed the duties of one, bringing important intelligence from Belgrade to Sir Stratford Canning at Constantinople, and travelling over the same ground in even a shorter time."

When a messenger returns to London from foreign service he is placed at the bottom of the list of those at home available for duty, and may thus reckon on perhaps a fortnight clear at his own disposal. But he cannot always reckon on so long, as the following tale shows:—"Captain A., having just returned from St. Petersburg, saw his name well placed at the bottom of a goodly list of names ready for duty, and judged it expedient to spend his anticipated fortnight in the sunny south of France. About a week after his arrival at Monte Carlo he was startled and annoyed by the receipt of the following strange and apparently impertinent telegram:—

'Chief Clerk, Foreign Office, to Captain A:
You are fast and dirty. Return at once.'

Having puzzled awhile over this enigma, it occurred to him that, whatever might be the explanation of the first sentence, the last was an order which his sense of duty compelled him to obey. He accordingly packed up his traps and returned forthwith, to find on his arrival at Downing-street that the telegram, as originally despatched, ran as follows:—

'You are first on duty. Return at once.'"

Ready wit, courage, and resource in difficulty are amongst the cardinal points in a good messenger. The story is told that on one occasion a burning political question had arisen at a certain European capital in which Great Britain and another Great Power were largely interested. Two messengers were despatched from that capital one evening: the one, an English Foreign Service Messenger, conveying despatches to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; the other a courier of the Great Power in question. Both messengers were strictly enjoined to lose not a moment on the road, but the Englishman was privately informed that if he could outstrip his colleague the time saved would be of great service to the State:—"The two messengers fraternised on the journey, the Englishman all the while casting about for any scheme whereby he might delay his companion, or advance himself. No possible opening presented itself until Calais was reached, where fortune favoured his enterprise in the shape of a severe storm, which prevented the packet from crossing the harbour bar on that night. The messenger at once saw and seized upon his opportunity. Approaching his travelling companion, he proposed that as the boat could not start that evening they should at once seek quarters for the night at the neighbouring hotel. No sooner said than done; the foreign courier, seeing no help for it, and safe in the consideration that his English colleague was in the same plight as himself, willingly consented, under the circumstances, to take a night's rest, and the two had speedily reached the hotel, and engaged their sleeping accomodation. Directly, however, the English messenger had seen his companion safe into his bedroom, he himself, instead of proceeding to his apartment, and in real fact quite wide awake, quietly slipped out. By dint of liberal offers of money he at length succeeded in persuading the owner of a lugger in port to face the passage of the Straits under sail, notwithstanding the tempestuous character of the weather, and to convey him by this means at once to Dover. A start was soon made, and after a stormy but prosperous voyage the stout-hearted Queen's messenger had the satisfaction to place his foot on British soil a good twelve hours in advance of his rival. He hurried up to London, and safely delivered his despatches, wearied, almost worn out, but with the proud consciousness of duty well fulfilled. It is said that the popular English Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the day presented the messenger on the spot with a gratuity of 100gs., as a token of his admiration for his pluck and resourceful energy, which had gained the valuable hours necessary to enable the Minister to deal with the critical international question as the sole possessor of most important information, and in such a manner as to secure the best interests of his country."

An American writer thus states what the United States have accomplished in Alaska since this territory was purchased from Russia twenty-five years ago:—"We have inaugurated the industries of cod fishing, whaling, salmon canning, and gold mining, and to-day the native population, whose number the Russians never ascertained, but who have certainly not increased, consume in one year more flour and soap than they did in half a century under the Russian *régime*. Russia left the people of Alaska to the iron rule of a trading monopoly invested with judicial powers, while the courts of appeal were so far away that they were out of reach of anybody but the all-powerful company. This company could flog the people or transport them at will, but could not settle the smallest account without reference to the Home Office, involving years of delay. We have given the people liberty of action and freedom of movement, and we have established at least one court of final resort in the country.

"The Russian Company maintained schools only for training its own employees and their offspring, who were obliged to render not less than fifteen years' service in return. We have established free schools at all points where they are wanted, and in some places where they are not wanted. Instead of the dormant missions of the Russian Orthodox Church which dotted a narrow fringe of coast lands, we have now, in addition, the stations and schools of seven denominations scattered broadcast over Alaska. Russia jealously barred out all visitors from her shores. We have opened the more accessible part of the country to thousands of tourists who view frow the deck of palatial steamers the grandest scenery on the continent.

"Russia, or rather, the Russian-American Company, conducted costly explorations for minerals, and officially proclaimed that no precious metals existed in paying quantities. Our prospectors, unaided, have searched, and continue to search, every valley and gulch in Alaska, and, as a result of their labours and ventures, Alaska now boasts of the largest quartz mill in the world, and has become an exporter of bullion. On the shores of the inside channels, which the Russians twenty-five years ago dared not navigate without an armed guard, shotted guns, and boarding nettings, we are met to-day by the busy hum of thriving mining towns, with side-walked streets, enlivened by rumble of wheels and clatter of hoofs, with hotels and boarding-houses, large stores, steam laundries, saloons and churches, steam ferries puffing from shore to shore, the muffled roar of blasts and the glare of electric lights."

In the course of a description of a journey in Abyssinia, that Mr. Frederic Villiers has contributed to the *Century Magazine*, some interesting particulars are given with regard to the country and its inhabitants. Mr. Villiers says:—"We found the walls of the churches in Abyssinia covered with pictures of scriptural history, and the walls of the cathedral with the exploits of Johannes. His victories over the Egyptains at Gorra, and in the valley of Gundet, are fully represented in tones as florid as those of advertising posters at home. The native artist does not make up for crudeness of color by the accuracy of his drawing, and if these pictures have any merit it is in their originality of treatment. For instance, in the cathedral of Gundet, in a picture representing the Israelites crossing the Red Sea, Pharaoh carries in his right hand the latest specimen in six-shooters, and in his left he holds a pair of opera-glasses, while the Egyptian host sport Remington rifles. All movement of figures is from right to left, and in all pictures heads are full-faced, with the exception of Satan and the hated Egyptians, who are painted in acute profile, to show their lack of honesty and good faith, and their inability to look you straight in the face. It is a deplorable fact, and one which, ladies will say at once, only proves the ignorance and barbarity of the Ethiopians, that the evil spirits in these compositions are always represented by the softer sex, generally showing their naughtiness by exhibiting their tongues. The church painter goes so far as to question the gallantry of St. George, the Abyssinian patron saint, by depicting that warrior, instead of doing battle with the dragon, as spearing the graceful, undulating form of a long-tongued woman.

"The Abyssinian has a singular superstition regarding eating in the open. To him a fit of indigestion from over-feeding would mean the evil eye. He would feel assured that some part of the performance of appeasing his appetite had been observed. In walking along a highway in this country, I came across what appeared to be a large bundle of washing just a little off the road. On approaching it, the movement going on within was plainly discernible. Covered up in their *shemas*, or cloths, were three men eating their midday meal. So much in fear are the people of the evil eye, that they carry amulets containing prayers, and rolls of parchment several yards long; and pictures illustrative of the triumphs of the good spirit over that ocular absurdity are kept in their houses for protection. If an Abyssinian sells you anything, and is well inclined, he will caution you

to keep it indoors or covered up; for if an evil eye should fall on your purchase it may spoil or disappear, which latter contingency is much more probable in Abyssinia.

"Abyssinia is a country where, if marriage is a failure, it can be easily dissolved. There is absolutely no legal or holy tie. When a man is desirous of marrying a girl he directly applies to her parents. The maidens, like those in many European countries, are seldom consulted on the question; the lover arranging with the father or male relatives regarding her dower, which generally means a few beeves, sheep, or pieces of cloth, and sometimes gold. On the marriage day the bridegroom presents himself with his best man at the house of his future father-in-law. Much feasting goes on till the bride is carried off by her husband, generally on his shoulders, while the male relatives closely follow, making a canopy of their togas to keep off the rays of the sun, or perhaps the effects of the evil eye. Behind come a crowd of young girls and boys, methodically lifting their arms above their heads, and clapping their hands to the measured beatings of tom-toms carried by men running along the flanks of the procession, who also blow long trumpets. The happy couple that I saw married outstripped their followers, with the exception of their best man, and at last reached the town green, where the groomsmen formed a screen with their cloaks round the happy pair, when the deferred courtship began. It is a custom for the supporters of the groom, generally six in number, to be present on this occasion, and for many days afterward to go round visiting the houses of the mutual friends of the married pair, extolling the beauties of the bride and the accomplishments of the groom, generally finishing up with a grotesque dance, which is much enjoyed by the enthusiastic neighbours, crowding round the open doorway. Though this marriage can be annulled according to mutual agreement of bride and groom, if, after years of happiness together, they wish to cement the tie more closely, the pair simply attend the Holy Communion together in church, and the marriage is then looked upon as indissoluble.

"There is a touch of the old Roman 'Mark-Antony-over-the-body-of-Cæsar' custom about Abyssinian burials. The corpse is brought from the house of death to some prominent clearing in the town, where the women relatives and hired mourners sit around in a circle, lowly chanting some weird dirge. The chief mourner in the case that I saw, the mother of a child, stood upright over the little body, which with exposed face lay on a stretcher. With loud lamentations she beat her breast, tore her hair, bewailing her loss; presently in softer tones she extolled the perfections of her lost one. Then she raved again, growing more and more frantic every moment, till her slave entwined her arms about her mistress and led her sorrowing away. After that the men, who had been standing all the time at a respectful distance, came in and bore the body of the child to the burial-place, the women returning to the house to prepare a feast for the male mourners' return.

"We found that in many parts of the town of Adowa we were looked upon with the greatest horror by the womankind. In passing down a narrow street the women would keep close to the walls, turning their backs on us and whispering, "O you creatures with pink skins!" Throughout Abyssinia, cloth, coloured pieces of handkerchiefs, and bars of rock-salt ten inches long, serve as the ordinary medium of barter. The only coin in the country is the Marie-Thérèse silver dollar. Twenty-four bars of salt go to the dollar, therefore I always avoided changing dollars, and for small wants got on well by trading empty beer bottles, of which we were always adding to our supply, getting for each two chickens and a dozen eggs. Worcestershire-sauce bottles ran higher because of their glass stoppers. If I had felt inclined to settle in that country, I could have taken a chief's daughter in marriage, in spite of my green eyes and pink skin, on account of a large cut-glass cologne bottle, with a bulbous glass stopper, that I happened to have with me.

"The Abyssinian soldier is generally a frugal creature; on the war-path he has to put up with rations of jerked beef and a little flour, which he carries slung over his shoulders tied up in an end of his toga. A slab of stone will serve whereon to mix the flour with a little water, the quality of which he is not particular about. He will then make a paste; a fairly round stone is sought for and heated in the camp-fire, and is then used as a center around which the dough is built. This stone dumpling is then placed in hot ashes, and in a few moments is cooked sufficiently to serve as bread. Red pepper made into a paste with grease is carried in a small horn attached to his girdle. Of luxuries the Abyssinian soldier has few. Smoking is not allowed, and the breaker of this rule is liable to lose his nose and lips in punishment. Each man carries his little pot of snuff in his belt. A short time after the coming of the King we returned to the coast, and our mission was ended."

"A Country Parson" writes to the *Morning Post*:—"The result of the Elementary Education Act of 1870 is now being strongly felt all over England, and especially in our country districts. Would you permit me, as chairman of a county School Board, to briefly point out the disastrous results which can plainly be seen from the high education now compulsory on the working classes? In the first place, servants (especially female) are more difficult to obtain than they were ten years ago, increased education makes them look down upon domestic service and fly to shops and offices, which, though the pay is less, they consider a better position. Again, in walking through the country villages, I am struck by the paucity of able-bodied men—*e.g.*, I saw this week a lame man and a lad of fifteen ploughing, and when I ask what has become of young men that I have not seen for some time, I am told that they have gone to London or some large town. Men talk and write in these days of restoring the land to the labourer. Why, sir, the labourer wishes to leave the land. He considers he is qualified by education for something better than 'following the plough.' He wants to see life, and so the country districts are gradually being depopulated, and the old and infirm are all we shall shortly be left with. I believe in all being educated, but surely Standard IV. is high enough for all practical purposes. The agricultural labourers are beginning to see that this high education is a mistake, for meetings have been held in Suffolk protesting against the age and standard now compulsory. Formerly the children earned a few shillings at a reasonable age; now most of them are at school till they are thirteen. What we are coming to in this country God alone knows, but there is no doubt whatever that increased education has a great deal to do with labour troubles of every kind all over our country."

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society Mr. Everard im Thurn described the general characteristics of the new district in the north-west of British Guiana in the settlement and administration of which he has been employed for the last ten years. The colony of British Guiana he described as formed of a low swampy coast strip, often below the level of the sea, densely covered with mangroves, and intersected by rivers bound together by interlacing channels. Farther inland the mangroves pass into forests of tropical trees, which, as the land rises more steeply, are reduced to strips along the rivers, and finally merge into dry grassy uplands known as savannahs. The north-western district of the colony is officially defined as the territory bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean and the mouth of the River Orinoco; on the south by the ridge of land between the sources of the Amakuru, Barima, and Waini Rivers, and their tributaries, and the sources of the tributaries of the Cuyuni River; on the east by a line extending from the Atlantic Ocean in a southerly direction to the said ridge of land; on the south and on the west, by the Amakuru River and the line known as Schomburgh's line.

Mr. im Thurn's first task was to explore his territory, and this he did mainly by boat along the rivers and their connecting channels, traversing country never before visited by white men. The nature of this mode of travelling was very vividly described. On ascending the Moruka, the country on each side of the river was seen to become gradually more and more open—the river at last often winding through open savannahs, and broadening out here and there into pools so thickly set with water-lilies that the boat was forced through with difficulty. The waterway after some time leaves the river and passes along a narrow itabbo, or artificial water-path, which connects the Moruka with the Waini River. This connecting passage is about thirty miles long, and about ten miles is semi-artificial itabbo, made by the constant passage of the canoes of the Redmen through the swampy savannah, and very difficult to get through. Generally, it was hardly wider than the boat, and had many abrupt windings; the trees hung down so low over the water, that it was hard work either to force the boat under the low-lying branches, or to cut these away, and so make a passage. On either side of the channel the ground is so swampy as rarely to allow foothold of even a few inches in extent. The light hardly penetrates through the dense roof of leaves; and in the gloom under the roof only a few aroids, ferns, lilies, and orchids, and great masses of a palm previously undescribed.

The itabbo passed, the boat turned suddenly into the Barabara River itself, at first narrow, but soon widening and winding on its course through dense and unbroken bush, chiefly composed of the graceful, swaying manicole palms (*Euterpe edulis*). Very abundant, perched high up and low down among this dense bush, were great quantities of an orchid with stems 8ft. and 9ft. long, loaded with its countless butterfly-like yellow flowers (*Oncidium altissimum*). After a few miles the Barabara River led into the Biara, a river of much the same character, which, though naturally larger than the Barabara, was still so small as hardly to deserve more than the local name of creek. And, again, in a few miles the Biara carried the boat into the Baramanni River, which is about 100yds. or 150yds. wide, and very deep. This is, in fact, not a river at all, but a very elongated lake or lagoon, of perhaps twenty miles in length, the lower end opening into the Waini, while the upper end discharges part of its surplus water into the sea. Anything more maze-like than the itabbo between the Waini and Barima Rivers it is impossible to imagine.

On the Aruka, a large tributary of the Barima, the curious Arawack game of the Macquari whip is played, the essential feature of which is a testing of endurance by means of alternately giving and receiving severe cuts with a somewhat severe whip. This extraordinary performance, accompanied with much drinking and with invariable good humour, is carried on for some days in accordance with a fixed ritual, the blows, which are received by the players on the calves of their legs, being so severe as to draw much blood. The river, too, must at one time have been the site of a Redskin civilisation far superior to, and very different from, any known previously of the early inhabitants of Guiana; for there are on it considerable deposits of pottery ornamented with incised patterns, and even very abundantly with grotesque figures of men and animals in very high relief. To estimate the significance of this latter fact, it must be remembered that none of the known early inhabitants of Guiana have advanced in the important primitive art of pottery beyond the stage of making vessels of two or three definite and very simple shapes, which are almost invariably entirely without ornament, or are at best, in a very few cases, ornamented with a simple pattern painted on the flat surface.

The Warrau Redmen inhabiting a neighbouring region have recourse to a picturesque game in order to decide disputes amicably. For this purpose, on an appointed day both parties come together on some open space, such as this sand-bank, each man or boy provided with a large shield made of the leaf-stalks of the aeta palm (*Mauritia flexuosa*). After much shouting and dancing in two opposed lines, the shields of the one party are pushed against those of the other, and by this means the members of each party endeavour by sheer strength to overthrow, or at least to force back from their position, the members of the other party; and the right in the matter in dispute is considered to lie with whichever party proves itself the stronger in this contest. The game is peculiar to the swamp Warraus, who live in the swamps of the mouths of the Orinoco, and live here chiefly on the aeta palm, not cultivating any food-

staff, but eating the fruit of this palm and the pith of its stem, not making any fermented drink, as other Redmen do, but drinking only water and the sap of this same palm, building their houses, not as Humboldt thought, actually in these palms, but yet entirely, floor, posts, and roof, *of* the various parts of this palm. The physical features of the north-western district are like, yet in some respects different from, those of the rest of the colony. The watershed from which the main rivers, the Waini, Barama, Barima, and the Amakuru, run down to the sea, is here nearer to the coast-line than it is further south. Two more important consequences arise from this. The bare dry savannah of the interior of other parts of the colony is here unrepresented, the whole district being practically within the forest belt. And the rivers are both shorter and deeper, though their mouths are very wide. Moreover, these rivers are curiously connected both by a remarkably elaborate network, probably hardly paralleled in any other part of the world, of natural and semi-natural water channels—such as those described—and by an almost equally elaborate network of Redmen's paths through the forest.

The inhabitants of this district were, ten years ago, Redmen, and Redmen only. Their distribution is interesting when taken in connection with the distribution of their kind throughout the colony. The Redmen of Guiana consist of many small tribes, the best known of which are the Arawacks and the so-called Caribs—true Caribs they are preferably called. These two last-named tribes owe the fact that they are the best known to the circumstance that they shared between them the West Indian Islands south of Jamaica at the time of their discovery by Columbus; and they are the last remnants of those people who were the victims of that brutal policy of extermination by cruelty followed by the Spanish conquerors of the New World. The north-western district is some 9,500 square miles in extent, and rises gradually from the sea to the range of somewhat higher land, which is represented, with some exaggeration, on most existing maps as the Sierra Imataca range of mountains, but which, within the limits of British Guiana, never attains a general level of more than 300 or 400ft. The lower or alluvial part of this country consists of some of the richest soil in the world. Parts which have since been taken in and drained now yield crops of tropical produce of simply amazing abundance. As an illustration, a garden which hardly two and a half years ago was cleared and drained already has in its avenues of trees (*Casuarina*) of over 40ft. high, which were then planted. On the other hand, the higher part of the new district is being fast overrun by very successful gold-diggers.

For geographical reasons the most convenient centre from which to administer the district was at the point at which the Morawhanna leaves the Barima. This is near the centre of the waterway which traverses the northern part of the colony from the sugar fields about the mouth of the Essequibo to its northern limits on the Orinoco, by which, in the absence of roads, all traffic from the Orinoco to the older established parts of the colony must necessarily pass. Here, therefore, the central station, with the Government Agency, the police barracks, the hospital, and the other buildings, public and private, which go to make up the chief township, have been placed, and are fast being added to. A large station, with the other necessary accommodation, was also placed at the northern end of the waterway, on the mouth of the Amakuru; and other stations have been placed at intervals along the whole line.

The Quartermaster-General of the United States has issued a bulletin giving the history of the national flag from the time of the Declaration of Independence. By a resolution of Congress in June 1777, it was ordered that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and that the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation. The thirteen stripes had been introduced, in alternate white and blue, on the upper left-hand corner of a standard presented to the Philadelphia Light Horse by its captain in 1775, and the Union flag of the thirteen united colonies raised at Washington's headquarters in January, 1776, had the thirteen stripes just as they are to-day, but it had also the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew on a blue ground in the corner. There is no satisfactory evidence, however, that any flag bearing the union of the stars had been in public use before the resolution of June, 1777. It is not known to whom the credit of designing the Stars and Stripes is due. It is claimed that a Mrs. John Ross, an upholsterer, who resided in Arch-street, Philadelphia, was the maker of the first flag combining the stars and stripes. Her descendants assert that a committee of Congress, accompanied by General Washington, who was in Philadelphia in June, 1776, called upon Mrs. Ross, and engaged her to make the flag from a rough drawing, which, at her suggestion, was redrawn by General Washington with pencil in her back parlour, and the flag thus designed was adopted by Congress. Although the resolution establishing the flag was not officially promulgated by the Secretary of Congress until September 3, 1777, it seems well authenticated that the Stars and Stripes were carried at the battle of the Brandywine, September 11, 1777, and thenceforward during all the battles of the Revolution. Soon after its adoption the new flag was hoisted on the war vessels of the United States. The ship *Ranger*, bearing the Stars and Stripes, and commanded by Captain Paul Jones, arrived at a French port about December 1, 1777, and her flag received on February 14, 1778, the first salute ever paid to the American flag by foreign vessels. The flag remained unchanged for about eighteen years after its adoption. By this time two more States—Vermont and Kentucky—had been admitted to the Union, and in January, 1794, the Congress enacted that from and after the 1st of May, 1795, the flag of the United States should be fifteen stripes, alternately red and white; that the Union be fifteen stars, white in a blue field. This was the national banner from 1795 to 1818. By 1818 five additional States—Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana, and Mississippi—had been admitted into the Union, and therefore a further change in the flag was required. After considerable discussion in Congress the Act of April, 1818, was passed, which provided that the flag of the United States should be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union should have twenty stars, white in a blue field; and that on the admission of every new State into the Union one star be added to the Union of the flag. The return to the thirteen stripes of the flag of 1777 was due, in a measure, to a reverence for the standard of the Revolution, but it was also due to the fact that a further increase of the number of stripes would have made the width of the flag out of proportion to its length unless the stripes were narrowed, and this would have impaired their distinctness when seen from a distance. No Act has since been passed altering this feature of the flag. In the war with Mexico the flag bore twenty-nine stars in its Union, during the civil war thirty-five, and since July 4, 1891, forty-four. The manner of arranging the stars has not been prescribed, and, in consequence, there has been a lack of uniformity in the matter. The early custom was to insert them in parallel rows across the blue field, and this custom has been observed in the navy at least since 1818. In the army, too, the stars have always been arranged in horizontal rows across the blue field, but not always in vertical rows, the effect, however, being the same as in the naval flag. Hereafter there will be no difference in the arrangement between the army and navy as an arrangement has been made between the departments on the subject. The national flags hoisted at camps or forts are made of bunting of American manufacture. They are of the following three sizes:—The storm and recruiting flag, 8ft. in length by 4ft. 2in. in width; the post flag, 20ft. in length by 10ft. in width; the garrison flag, 30ft. in length by 20ft. in width, which is hoisted only on holidays and great occasions. The Union is one-third of the length of the flag, and extends to the lower edge of the fourth red stripe from the top. The national colours carried by regiments of infantry and artillery and the battalion of engineers, on parade or in battle, are made of silk and are 6ft. 6in. long and 6ft wide, and mounted on staves. The field of the colours is 31in. in length and extends to the lower edge of the fourth red stripe from the top. The sizes of the flags used in the army and navy are not fixed by law, but are prescribed by army and navy regulations.

Bishop Edward Bickersteth, of Japan, has written a letter to the members of the Guild of St. Paul regarding the state of missions in that country. He says that he takes a decidedly hopeful view of the question, and proceeds:—"I am not, indeed, among those who hold gloomy opinions as to the prospect of missions in any Eastern land. It would not, perhaps, be fair to say that the very sombre reports which are sent home from time to time are by persons prejudiced against missions as such, but you may have noticed that, as a rule, the actual experience of the writers has been very brief, and that their views are not generally shared by those whose residence in the East has been longer. Thus I have no doubt that Mr. Lefroy and the other members of my dear old mission at Delhi are right in holding that their work is gradually making its influence widely felt, even though they have had very few baptisms during fifteen years among Mahomedans and Hindoos. At least, their opinion is far more likely to be right than that of even very intelligent travellers who merely pass through India. And if they are correct in their judgment of their work in India, there is certainly ample justification for a good hope in Japan, where outward and visible signs of success are more patent. On the other hand, I cannot quite agree with (shall I call it?) the roseate estimate of our missions, which anticipates immediately, or in a very near future, a practically final triumph and victory of the faith. In some ways I suppose that Japan offers more evidence which may be taken to support such a view than any other country. Missions there are far younger than in India or China, and yet they are more advanced. Still, this view not only unintentionally exaggerates what has been accomplished, but leaves out of account the thought of the opposition with which the Church has to contend. Buddhism and Shintoism are forces which must still be reckoned with in dealing with the masses of the Japanese people. Of these Buddhism is now attempting to regain its lost ground by restating some of its tenets in the terms of modern philosophies; of Shintoism, perhaps, the very simplicity is the strength. And besides these systems definite unbelief, as I have mentioned in former letters, and widespread indifference are very formidable obstacles to rapid progress. The unbelief is mainly due to the influence of Western books and teachers; the indifference to the pre-occupation of the people with scientific knowledge and politics. Together they generate a temper unfavourable to earnest religious inquiry in a large section of Japanese society."

In an interesting article in the *Victorian Magazine* on the Post Office, the writer says:—"The Hospital and the Blind-room are features that never fail to interest the visitor to the G. P. O. To the former are carried all the letters and packets which have been posted, or have become in such bad condition, that the contents are in danger of getting astray in transmission. It is hardly to be believed how careless many of the public are in regard to the posting of their correspondence; but of this there can be no doubt, when we notice the hundreds of letters that have been posted quite open, bearing not the slightest evidence of any effort having been made to fasten them. Such letters, together with the fragile articles, badly or insecurely packed, form a source of much extra trouble to the post office, inasmuch as the work left undone by a thoughtless public has to be completed by the members of the postal hospital. To the Blind-room are brought all the letters which bear insufficient, misspelt, or illegible addresses, and which the sorters have throw into a pigeon-hole labelled 'Blind.' Here the clerks, selected from amongst the most experienced and skilled sorting clerks, have to decipher writings which others have given up as a hopeless task. Trulp, one comes across some of the most curious and eccentric specimens, both of caligraphy and orthography, in the 'blind' office, and the fact that so many of these badly written and ill-spelt missives are sent on their way through the skill of the 'blind' officers, as is the case, is strong testimony to their high intelligence. The difficulties these officers have to contend with may be fairly appreciated when it is stated that such addresses as

'Haselfeach in no famtshere'

interpreted as 'Hazelbeach, Northamptonshire," or 'Santlings Hilewhite,' interpreted as 'St. Helen's

Isle of Wight,' or again, 'Coneyach lunentick a siliam,' interpreted as 'Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum,' were all promptly deciphered and despatched. There are some towns which give no end of trouble both to the writer and the official, as witness, Ashby-de-la-Zouch which is spelt in fifty different ways. 'Hasbedellar-such' would appear to be the general spelling among the poorer classes. The following is a veritable copy of an address for the town referred to:

'Ash Bedles in such
for John Horsel, grinder
in the county of Lestyshire.'

A little time ago, a letter was posted to the '25th of March, London,' which, through the ready wit of one of the 'blind officers,' was correctly delivered with only a few hours' delay to 'Lady Day,' wife of the judge of that name. Even more puzzling was the letter addressed by a trustful correspondent at Ludlow to 'The gentleman who looked at a house near Cloebury Mortimer, a little time ago, Bilston,' and left it to the post office to discover this particular individual in a town of 25,000 inhabitants. Within four days of posting it was duly delivered to the gentleman for whom it was intended. But there are cases which baffle even the keen-witted officials of the Blind-room. It was, for example, only when opened in the Returned Letter Office that the missive addressed to 'Mister Willy wot brinds de Baber in Lang Gaster ware te gal is,' was discovered to be intended for the Editor of a Lancaster paper, 'where the gaol is.' 'Uncle John, Hopposite the Church, London, Hingland,' is an address that proved too vague even for the Blind-room, aided as it is with the most complete dictionaries, directories, and gazetteers, while the letter addressed 'Ann M—Oily White Amshire,' was, in the absence of the name of any town, undeliverable, although no doubt existed that it was intended for the Isle of Wight, Hampshire. A valuable collection of the most curious addresses on letters that pass through the post is kept in the Blind-room, where the visitor is permitted to dip into the pages of this most interesting volume."

SOCIETY.

The marriage of the Hon. Adeline Loftus, Maid of Honour to the Queen, with Mr. W. B. Paton will take place at Hampton-court Palace Chapel on the 26th inst.

The marriage between Harry Callander Oakley, Esq., eldest surviving son of Sir Henry Oakley, of 37, Chester-terrace, Regent's-park, and Mary, second daughter of John Barnand, Esq., C.C., of Hemdyke House, Owston Ferry, Lincolnshire, was celebrated on June 30, at the parish church of St. Pancras, London, by the Rev. Henry L. Paget, vicar.

The marriage arranged between Mr. A. B. Hawley Drew, 29th P.I., eldest son of General Drew, of Spring Vale, Isle of Wight, and Violet, daughter of Walter Yeldham, late Captain 10th and 18th Hussars, will take place early in September.

The marriage between Mr. Peter G. S. Payne and Miss Maud Banbury will take place at half-past two to-day (Saturday) at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, instead of on Tuesday, the 12th, as previously arranged.

The marriage arranged between the Hon. Thomas Dundas and Miss Maud Wentworth Fitzwilliam is fixed to take place on Monday, the 18th inst. That between Mr. Arthur Williams Wynn and Miss Mary Wentworth Fitzwilliam will take place on Saturday, the 23rd inst.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Harry Filmer Sulivan and Miss Enid Bevan will take place on the 28th inst. at St. Matthew's Church, Bayswater, at a quarter-past two.

The marriage arranged between Captain L. Brock-Hollinshead, 1st Royal West Kent Regiment, and Katharine, daughter of the Rev. C. Armitage, of Pallanza, Lago Maggiore, will take place at St. Mary Boltons, South Kensington, at half-past two, on the 28th inst.

The marriage arranged between David M'Laren Morrison, of Calcutta, second son of Mr. J. R. Morrison, of Redcliffe-gardens, South Kensington, and Alice, widow of the late Mr. J. U. B. Warner, of Kepwick Park, Northallerton, and eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., will take place on the 28th inst., in place of the 24th of August as previously announced.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Edward Molyneux-Seel, Royal Scots, and Margaret, daughter of Mr. Matthew Bulloch, of 48, Prince's gate, will take place early in August.

The marriage arranged between Mr. F. E. Vivian Bond, second son of Mr. F. Walters Bond, of Wargrave Manor, Berks, and Miss Maud Coleman, daughter of the late Mrs. Coleman, of Greenwich, Kent, will take place at All Saints', Coatham, Redcar, Yorks, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at eleven o'clock.

The wedding arranged between Mr. Arthur G. Boscawen, son of Captain Griffith Boscawen, of Trevalyn Hall, North Wales, and Miss Edith Williams, of Shirley Hall, Langton, will take place at Langton Church, Kent, on Thursday, the 28th inst.

A marriage has been arranged between Lieutenant Keith Erskine, Assistant to the Political Agent, Rajputana, elder son of Colonel George Elphinstone Erskine, Commissioner of Kumaon, and Mabel, second daughter of Mr. John Dyson, of Moorlands, near Crewkerne, Somerset, late Judicial Commissioner of Oudh.

Also between Mr. Charles Hamilton, second son of Mr. Edward Hamilton, of Charters, Ascot, and Miss A. G. M. Lang, youngest daughter of Mr. Hugh M. Lang, of Broadmeadows, Selkirk.

Also between Captain Robert D. Vizard, 2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment, third son of the late Rev. Henry Brougham Vizard, rector of Spetisbury-cum-Charlton, Dorset, and Gertrude A. Chapman, widow of the late Mr. D'Arcy R. Chapman, and eldest daughter of the late Thomas Watson Parker, of Lewisham, Kent.

Also between Mr. C. C. Leveson Gower, 2nd Punjab Cavalry, eldest son of the late Mr. H. R. B. Leveson Gower, and Beatrice, eldest daughter of Mr. H. F. Makins, of 180, Queen's-gate.

Also between Major John Grenfell Maxwell, D.S.O., the Black Watch, and Miss Louise Bonynge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bonynge, of 42, Prince's-gate.

Also between Captain C. R. Day, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and Katharine, youngest daughter of Mr. Scott-Chad.

Also between the Rev. Frederick Newman, formerly rector of Bishopstrow, third son of the late Mr. J. Newman, of Brands House, Hughenden, J.P. and D.L. for the county of Bucks, and Miss Caroline A. Phelips, daughter of the late Rev. Richard Colston Phelips, rector of Cucklington.

Also between Mr. Lethbridge, Grenadier Guards, eldest son of Sir Wroth Lethbridge, Bart., and Alianore, youngest daughter of Lady Anna Chandos-Pole and the late Mr. Chandos-Pole, of Radburne Hall, Derby.

Also between Mr. Edward Robert Portal, of Eddington House, Hungerford, and Miss Ellinor Kate Hill, elder daughter of Captain Charles West Hill, late of the 69th Regiment, and Governor of Her Majesty's Prison, Winchester.

Also between Mr. Frank Seaman Dymoke, only son of the Hon. F. S. Dymoke, of Scrivelsby Court, Lincolnshire, and Miss Frances Bell, third daughter of Mr. Charles Bell, of Scamblesby House, Horncastle.

Also between Mr. H. E. Donald, of Pendennis, Manitoba, son of Mr. James Donald, of Folkestone, and Miss E. Wilmot Sitwell, second daughter of the Rev. D. Wilmot Sitwell, of Leamington Hastings, Rugby.

Also between John Richard Julius, son of Mr. William Angerstein, and Georgiana, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Beginald Burton.

Also between Major R. H. Jennings, Royal Engineers, Political Agent and Consul to Her Britannic Majesty at Bussorah, Turkish Arabia, and Miss Gray, daughter of the late Mr. Archibald Gray, of 37, Holland-park.

Also between James Edward, second son of Mr. John Shaw, of Darrington Hall, Yorkshire, and Adela Constance Alexandrina, youngest daughter of the late Sir Henry I. Durrant, Bart., and Ina Lady Durrant, of Scottow Hall, Norfolk.

Also between Mr. Hugh Woolner, son of Mr. Thomas Woolner, R.A., and Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. John Curwen Simpson, Sunninghill, Scarborough, formerly of Thurnscoe, Doncaster.

Also between Philip Charles, second son of Captain W. H. Eccles, late Rifle Brigade, and Eleanor Maude, daughter of the Rev. C. Powys Isaac, vicar of Boningale, Shropshire.

Also between Arthur Henry, eldest son of the late Henry Kingsley, M.D. Stratford-on-Avon, and Mrs. Demain-Saunders, of Fanshaw, near Hertford.

Also between Mr. J. A. Berners, King's Dragoon Guards, eldest son of Mr. Charles Berners, of Woolverstone Park, Suffolk, and Ethel, fifth daughter of Mr. Lawrence J. Baker, of Ottershaw Park, Surrey, and 28, Queen's-gate.

The marriage of Lord Southampton to Lady Hilda Dundas, younger daughter of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, was celebrated on Saturday, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, the Dean of St. Patrick's and Dean of the Chapel Royal, Dublin, officiating. Among the relations and friends present at the ceremony were the Archbishop of Dublin and the Hon. Misses Plunket, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Lady Ashbourne, and the Hon. Elsie Gibson, the Marchioness Conyngham, the Earl and Countess of Fingall, the Countess of Kilmorey, Viscount and Viscountess Wolseley and the Hon. Frances Wolseley, Viscount and Viscountess Downe and the Hon. Misses Dawnay, Lord and Lady Iveagh, Lord Rowton, Lady Edmund Talbot, the Chief Secretary for Ireland and Mrs. Jackson, the Hon. Charles Bourke, the Hon. Algernon and Mrs. FitzRoy, Captain the Hon. Osbert and Mrs. Lumley, the Hon. Mrs. Pennant, Mr. and Lady Victoria Hamilton, General and Mrs. Moncrieff, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Crutchley, Sir West and Lady Ridgeway, and many others. Captain Barclay, 10th Hussars, a brother officer, attended the bridegroom as best man, and there were four bridesmaids and three pages—Lady Maud Dundas, sister of the bride; Lady Blanche Frances Conyngham, Miss Talbot, and Miss Ridgeway; and the Hon. George Dundas, brother of the bride, Viscount Newry, and the Hon. Lionel Dawson-Damer. The bride, who was given away by the Earl of Zetland, wore a long-trained dress of white velvet with a ruche of ostrich feathers round the foot, the bodice made with a Swiss belt of the velvet, and chemisette and sleeves of embroidered lisse. She wore a long tulle veil, and her jewels comprised a diamond tiara, her father's gift; diamond bracelets, given by the bridegroom; and a pearl and diamond necklace. The bridesmaids—all children, Lady Maud Dundas, Lady Blanche Conyngham, Miss Talbot, and Miss Ridgeway—were quaintly dressed in soft white muslin over silk, with yellow sashes and shoes, and yellow chiffon round their hair. Each wore a heart brooch studded with various jewels, the gift of the bridegroom. The pages—the Hon. George Dundas, the Hon. Lionel Damer, and Lord Newry—wore costumes of old Italian style, the doublet and hose being of fawn material, with trunks and puffed sleeves of yellow silk, silver chain belts, fawn caps with yellow plumes, and fawn shoes turned back with yellow. The Earl and Countess of Zetland afterwards entertained the bridal party at luncheon at the Viceregal Lodge, and the newly-wedded pair left later in the afternoon for Lissadell, County Sligo, lent by Sir Henry and Lady Gore Booth for the honeymoon. The wedding presents were very numerous and valuable.

The marriage of Mr. Charles Halford, Grenadier Guards, with Irene, second daughter of the late Sir Alfred Slade, took place in the Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Wednesday. The bride was attended by six bridesmaids: Miss Constance Slade, her sister; Miss Florence Halford, sister of the bridegroom; the Hon. Myrtle Mostyn and Miss Arbuthnot, cousins of the bride; Miss Violet Ponsonby, cousin of the bridegroom, and Miss Evelyn Lindsay; and two little children, Master Wallace Cuninghame and the Hon. Gladys Mostyn, acted as trainbearers. Sir Aubrey McMahon, Grenadier Guards, was best man. The Rev. Francis Dillon, rector of Peopleton, officiated, assisted by the Rev. R. Armitage, Chaplain to the Forces, Sir Cuthbert Slade giving his sister away. Among the guests who assembled at the reception afterwards given by Lady Slade, at her house in Cadogan-gardens, were Mr. and Hon. Mrs. Halford and Miss Halford, Lady Vaux, Major and Mrs. Cuninghame, the Countess of Caledon and Viscount Alexander, Lady Decies and Hon. Charlotte Beresford, Lady Theresa Boyle and the Misses Boyle, Lady Ponsonby-Fane and Mrs. Robert Ponsonby, Lady Elizabeth Williamson and Miss Williamson, Lady Carew and Miss Lethbridge, the Hon. Alexander Hood, the Hon. Mrs. Colville, Mr. and Mrs. Basil Slade, Sir Clement and Lady Hill, the Hon. Mrs. Hay and Miss Hay, Mr. Clement Hay, Sir Augustus Webster, Viscountess Stormont and the Hon. Mabel Murray, the Hon. Mrs. Nevill and Miss Nevill, the Hon. Mrs. Mostyn and the Hon. Violet Mostyn, Viscountess Chetwynd and the Hon. Eleanora Chetwynd and the Hon. Mrs. Blezard, Lady

Arthur Wellesley and Miss Wellesley, and others.

On Thursday afternoon, at the church of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Premier Viscount of Scotland, was married to Lady Violet Ashley, fourth daughter of the late Earl of Shaftesbury, and sister of the present peer. The bride's mother, the Countess of Shaftesbury, gave her away. Mr. F. J. Erskine, a kinsman of the Earl, was best man. There were eight bridesmaids—the Ladies Mildred and Ethel Ashley, the Ladies Constance and Louisa Erskine, Lady Esther Gore, Lady Mabel Sturt, Lady Elizabeth Meade, and Miss Lilian Ashley—who were dressed in white crêpon and lisse, with large white sashes and Leghorn hats trimmed with pink roses. The wedding gown was of white satin, with full Court train. Her veil was of tulle and her ornaments were diamonds, including a massive diamond bracelet presented by the townspeople of Alloa. The reception given by the Countess of Shaftesbury at 5, Belgrave-square, was very largely attended, and early in the afternoon the Earl and Countess of Mar and Kellie left for St. Giles's House, Dorset, a seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury, where the early days of their honeymoon will be spent. The wedding presents, about 400 in number, included—From the officers of the Scots Guards to the bridegroom, a silver Queen Anne tea and coffee service and tea-tray; from the Clackmannon and Alloa Coal Companies, handsome silver centrepiece; the servants on the Alloa Estates, two silver lamps; the miners of Alloa Colliery, silver tray; the townspeople of Alloa, silver rose-water dish; and the servants at Alloa House, a silver egg-boiler. Among those to the bride were from the Countess of Shaftesbury's household servants in Belgrave-square, at Belfast Castle and St. Giles's, a silver tea-kettle and stand; the clergy and tenants at St. Giles's, silver-gilt looking-glass; and the out-door *employés* at St. Giles's, pair of silver candlesticks.

Colonel the Hon. Herbert Francis Eaton, Grenadier Guards, brother of Lord Cheylesmore, was married to Miss Elizabeth French, eldest daughter of Mr. F. O. French, of New York, on Thursday afternoon, at the Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The bridesmaids, Miss Elsie French, sister of the bride, Miss F. Tailer, Miss N. Pinchot, Miss F. Davies, and Miss E. Richards, wore Empire dresses of straw coloured satin, brocaded with a small flower in a darker shade, and trimmed with lace and large Leghorn hats plumed with white ostrich feathers. The bridegroom presented them with diamond and ruby grenade brooches and shower bouquets of tea roses. The bride was attired in the richest white satin, trimmed with orange blossoms, and beautiful old Brussels point, a few orange blossoms in her hair, and a magnificent veil of old point lace, which fell from the hair at the back, and was arranged over the train, but did not cover the face. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. Butler, vicar of Neasden, assisted by the Rev. Ravenscroft Stewart, vicar of All Saints', Ennismore-gardens, and the Rev. R. Armitage, chaplain at Wellington Barracks. The servic was choral. Mr. and Mrs. French held the reception at 16, Prince's-gate, lent by Lord Cheylesmore for the occasion, the house being lavishly adorned with flowers, chiefly pale pink roses. The band of the Grenadier Guards, under the direction of Lieutenant Dan Godfrey, was stationed on the terrace, and performed a brilliant selection of music throughout the afternoon. At five o'clock Colonel Eaton and his bride started for Meadow Bank, Windsor, the residence of Lady George Pratt, sister of the bridegroom, where the early days of the honeymoon will be spent. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of York presented the bridegroom with a Louis Seize ormulu clock and stand, bearing the following inscription:—"To Colonel the Hon. H. Eaton, Grenadier Guards, on his marriage, from Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and George, Duke of York, July 14, 1892." The officers of the Grenadier Guards presented their colonel with a large silver George III. salver and two silver candelabra. Some of the officers of the Scots Guards gave the bridegroom a silver inkstand and tray, and some other officers of the same regiment gave a pair of silver muffineers. The sergeants of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards presented the bride with a silver *tête-a-tête* tea service and tray, and the married women of the battalion sent her a silver card case.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess of Zetland gave a garden party on Wednesday week at the Viceregal Lodge, in honour of the Dublin University tercentenary. There was a very large attendance of the delegates and their friends. At seven o'clock in the evening a grand banquet was given by the Provost and Fellows of the University to their visitors. The Leinster Hall, in which the entertainment took place, was very handsomely decorated. The gallery was reserved for ladies. About 560 sat down to dinner. The Earl of Rosse, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, presided; and there were present, among others, the Lord-Lieutenant, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Primate, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Kelvin, Sir F. Leighton, the Right Hon. W. Plunkett, the Bishop of Oxford, Professor Ingram, the Provost, Lord Wolseley, the Lord Mayor, Lord Plunket, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, the Bishop of Derry, the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge; and Professor Leckie. The toasts were "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," "The Universities," and "Science, Literature, and Art."

At the Church of St. Augustine's, Queen's-gate, on the 29th ult., the marriage was solemnised between William Coode Adams, M.B., eldest son of the late Dr. Adams, of North London, and Blanche, second daughter of the late William Middlemass, J.P., of March Mount, Cheltenham. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Canon Charles D. Bell, D.D., rector of Cheltenham, assisted by the Rev. Malcolm MacColl, F.R.S.L., Canon of Ripon. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Captain J. C. Middlemass, R.E., wore a handsome duchesse satin, Empire train, bodice charmingly trimmed with point lace and orange blossoms, tulle veil covering her entire dress and wreath of real orange blossoms. Ornaments, sapphires and diamonds, gifts of the bridegroom. Her bouquet was composed of tuberroses and orange blossoms. The two bridesmaids wore becoming dresses of pink Bengaline with hats to correspond, the younger little attendant bridesmaids were dressed in white embroidered muslins and hats trimmed with white ribbon, carrying bouquets of white and pink roses. Mr. Hugh Adams, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony Mr. Middlemass gave a reception at Bailey's Hotel, Gloucester-road, which was largely attended. Later in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left for Scotland. The bride's travelling-dress was fawn crépon, trimmed with green velvet, gold embroidered waistcoat, hat to match. The bride's mother wore a handsome costume in black velvet and satin, and carried a bouquet of red roses.

The marriage of Mr. Walter L. R. Currie, second son of the Rev. Sir Frederick Currie, Bart., Old Alresford, Hants, and Bertha, youngest child of the late Mr. T. A. Freeman, took place at the parish church of St. Marylebone on the 28th ult. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Sir Frederick Currie, father of the bridegroom, assisted by Canon Barker. The service was fully choral. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Francis Freeman, wore a dress of white satin, with Brussels lace arranged *en fichu*. She carried a beautiful bouquet of white flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. The three bridesmaids wore white crépon and white hats trimmed with ostrich tips; they carried bouquets of white marguerites, and wore pearl pins, the gift of the bridegooom. Master Rowland Swinford, who acted as page, wore a suit of white silk. Mr. F. J. Bryant, of Lincoln's-inn, acted as best man. Amongst the guests at the church were the Rev. Sir Frederick and Lady Currie, the Misses Currie, Mr. F. R. Currie, Mr. C. E. Currie, Lady Rivers Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Swinford, Miss Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Larkins, Mrs. Bovill, Mrs. Walter Arnold and Miss Arnold, Mrs. Nance, Mr. T. West, Mrs. G. Currie, Miss Ida Currie, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. Edward Cooke and the Misses Cooke, &c. Mrs. Frederick Swinford, sister of the bride, afterwards held a reception at the Langham Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Currie left in the afternoon for Dover, *en route* for the Continent.

At All Saints, Brighton, on the 28th ult., the marriage was celebrated of the Rev. John Talbot Godfrey, second son of William Godfrey, Esq., St. Peter's, Bedford, with Rafella, fifth daughter of the late George William Boothby, Royal Navy. Mr. Percy Godfrey attended his brother as best man, and the bride's cousin, Miss Emily Ram, was the only bridesmaid. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. Boothby. She wore a beautiful dress of cream brocaded satin (the gift of the Countess Gastaldi), a wreath of orange blossoms in her hair, covered by a superb Brussels lace veil, fastened by a diamond brooch (the gift of the Countess Etienne Gastaldi), and carried a bouquet of white flowers. The bridesmaid's dress was of ivory and pale blue silk mixed, and she wore a bangle with "1892" (the gift of the bridegroom), and carried a basket of white orchids and roses. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. R. Digby Ram, rector of Hampton, and the Rev. E. A. Chichester, vicar of St. Martin's, Dorking. A reception was afterwards held at the residence of the Hon. Mrs. C. Boothby, the bride's aunt. The Princess of Monaco had given framed autograph portraits of herself and the Prince, Count and Countess Gastaldi a silver tea service, and the Count and Countess Etienne Gastaldi gave a diamond brooch and bracelet, Lord and Lady Monteagle a cheque, Count Bertora a pearl bracelet and purse, Count Alban a gold bangle, and a ring from Baroness de Montfort, while from the friends and relatives of both bride and bridegroom many costly gifts gave evidence of the regard entertained for them both. The newly-married pair left in the afternoon for London. The bride's travelling dress was a grey and pink shot corduroy, trimmed with lace, and a grey hat to match.

Miss Katie E. N. Crisford was married last week to the Rev. Ernest R. Knapp, at St. Bride's Church, Fleet-street. The bridegroom, who is vicar of Rodbourne Cheney, in Wiltshire, entered the church in company with his best man, the Rev. Canon Taylor Smith. The bride, who advanced up the aisle leaning on the arm of her father, was attired in white silk trimmed with orange blossoms, while over her face fell the veil which had been worn by her mother on the occasion of her marriage. The bride's train was supported by two tiny pages clad in green velvet (her brothers). The four sisters of the bride were the bridesmaids, and were tastefully dressed in white corduroy trimmed with eau de Nil silk, large white hats trimmed with long feathers, gloves, shoes, &c., to match. The gold bangles worn by the two elder bridesmaids, as also the brooches worn by the younger ones, were the presents of the bridegroom. All carried bouquets, indeed there was quite a display of flowers. The bride's mother, who carried a bouquet of orchids, wore a green-grey bengaline silk trimmed with passementerie, and a bonnet trimmed white lace and orchids. She was supported by her brother, Col. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer (aunt of the bride) were also of the bridal procession. The marriage service was conducted by the Rev. Martin Knapp, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. E. C. Hawkins, vicar of St. Bride's, and the Rev. W. Smiley. Mr. Crisford gave the bride away. After the service Mrs. Crisford held a reception, which was largely attended. The newly-married pair soon afterwards drove away amid the good wishes of their friends *en route* for Devonshire.

The marriage of Mr. George Phipps Spooner, fourth son of Gerard Spooner, Esq., of New Zealand, and grandson of the late Archdeacon Spooner, of Elindon, to Mabel Louise, eldest daughter of Richard Tangye, Esq., J.P., of Gilbertstone Hall, Birmingham, and Glendorgal, Newquay, Cornwall, took place on the 28th ult., at Elindon Church, before a large gathering of friends. The Rev. H. G. Hayter officiated. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a gown of rich white gros grain, with long Watteau train, and trimmed with blonde lace baby ribbons and orange blossoms. She was attended by four bridesmaids, who wore dresses of primrose Bengaline with Charles I. sleeves, and trimmed with quaint fichus of white guipure, and ruches of primrose and white silk round the foot of the skirt; large hats of white guipure, trimmed with primrose and white feathers; and shower bouquets of crimson roses completed the costume. They each wore a gold brooch, mounted in pearls, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. Paul Beran acted as best man. The mother of the bride, Mrs. Tangye, wore a beautiful gown of brown broché silk shot with green, and relieved by a pretty design of lilies of the valley in a pale shade of heliotrope; bonnet to match, and bouquet of orchids. After the ceremony a numerously-attended reception was held, and in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom started for the English lakes, where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's travelling-dress consisted of a green and pink woollen material, made with a coat and silk blouse to match.

The Hon. Mrs. Vereker gave a charming entertainment to her friends on the 1st inst., at which Mr. Dunne amused the audience much by his imitations of Corney Grain. Mrs. Vereker looked well in a pretty fawn cloth, with sleeves and vest of pink silk striped with narrow black lines, and black ribbons skilfully introduced; Lady Alexander Kennedy wore cream foulard flowered with mauve, and relieved by bands of mauve ribbons; Lady d'Arcy Osborne wore a rich black and white brocade;

and the Hon. Mrs. Massey Mainwaring was dressed in black sparkling with jet, and she wore a little pale blue introduced into her bonnet. Among the guests were Lord Gort, Lord Lindsey, Lord Gage, Mr. Gillett, Lady Barbara Stapylton, and Lady Frances Trevanion.

Mrs. R. Gerald Trollope was favoured with lovely weather for her garden party at The Cottage, Wimbledon Park, on the 27th ult., when she was at home from 4 till 7 o'clock. About 200 guests much enjoyed listening to the Blue Hungarian Quartette, which was played at the end of the lawn, under large shady trees. Tea and strawberries and cream were served in a prettily draped tent at the other end of the lawn. The hostess looked well in a fawn muslin, the waist encircled with a broad silk sash, with stripes of mauve, yellow, and cream; a bow of the same ribbon, and pink roses in the pretty fawn straw hat. Among the guests were Mrs. Barth Frere, Miss Margery Frere, Mrs. Turner, the Misses Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Haig, &c.

His Excellency the United States Minister received at 2, Cromwell Houses, on the 4th inst., a representative circle of London Americans. In the absence of Mrs. Lincoln in America, Mrs. Port and Mrs. Emory did the honours. Mrs. Emory wore an extremely pretty costume in pale tints; the sleeves and tiny bonnet of bright rose pink. Mrs. Port's costume was of Pompadour shot silk, tiny bouquets on a pale grey-blue gown. The *personnel* of the Legation were represented in Major Port, the military attaché; Commander Emory, the naval attaché; Mr. Henry White, first secretary; and Mr. Larz Anderson. The large rooms were very crowded throughout the afternoon. Among the guests were the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson, Sir Edward Thornton, Lord and Lady Stafford (Lady Stafford looking very distinguished in pale grey, and a little bonnet with moss-green velvet strings), Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Heaketh, Mrs. Paran Stevens, Mrs. Arthur Paget, Mrs. Mackay, wearing green and black; Mrs. Ronalds, in black, and a tiny little bonnet of soft rose pink; her daughter, Mrs. Ritchie, in a summer toilette of cream; Mrs. Ayer, of Paris, wearing a handsome costume of green and black shot grenadine, a small white bonnet, and wonderful emeralds; the Hon. Mrs. Dudley Leigh, in white, with a small bonnet of white heather; Mrs. Waldo Richards, in old rose and guipure lace; Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Boughton, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Lord, Mrs. de Rorde, and Mrs. Sikes (Olive Logan); Mrs. Blake, handsome in black and white; and Miss Blake, in white; Mrs. Huysh, very pretty in white and pink; Mrs. Granville Ellis, Mrs. Beaufoy Lane, Miss Proctor Otis, Mr. Frank Lincoln, Mr. Henry Sands (of Paris), Miss Tucker, Mrs. and Miss Greene, Mr. Ames Van Wart, &c. The Blue Hungarian Band played delightfully during the afternoon.

A ball in aid of the Hungarian Association of Benevolence was lately held at Prince's Hall. It is under the patronage of the Emperor-King of Austria and Hungary, the Duke of Teck, and many distinguished persons. The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador was present with the Countess Deym. They were received with some state, and escorted to the daïs specially prepared for them. The Countess Deym was dressed in pale yellow brocade, trimmed with lace, and wore magnificent diamonds; she carried a lovely bouquet of red blooms and foliage. The Italian Ambassador was accompanied by the Countess Tornielli, also dressed in yellow silk. The guests included the Chinese and Portuguese Ministers, Count and Countess Wydenbrock, Prince Hans Scouburg, Lady William Lennox, &c. Bouquets were presented by Mrs. Wallace to Countess Tornielli, and by Miss Rossiner to Countess Wydenbrock, Mrs. Ebner to Countess Deym. The Blue Hungarian Band occupied the large orchestra, which had been charmingly arranged with flowers. Supper was served downstairs, and light refreshments in the gallery, which was hung round like the hall with national banners. Many pretty dresses were worn. Mrs. Glyn Vivian had white satin, the bodice draped and outlined with dark green velvet; Mrs. Molesworth appeared in grey and silver; Mrs. Morton Bell in yellow brocade. Another lovely yellow brocade had huge blue velvet sleeves, with white lace draped over them. Pink velvet sleeves were introduced alike on black and cream gowns.

The Colombo season was opened with the birthday ball given by H. E. the Governor and Lady Havelock at Government House, for which over 700 invitations were sent out. The ball-room was tastefully decorated with ferns and palms, and the walls were graced by a pretty arrangement of shields, swords, and bayonets. The columns at the entrance of the room were covered with stag moss and red and white flowers, and two pyramids of block ice flanked the top landing of the stairs and were encircled with fairy lamps. The grounds were brightly illuminated, and a large marquee erected for those who wished for coolness. Sir Arthur Havelock wore his Windsor uniform, and Lady Havelock was dressed in a rich brocaded white silk, made with the fashionable Watteau train, trimmed with ostrich feathers, over a petticoat of handsome gold embroidery; diamond stars in her hair and on her dress. Miss Havelock was in a soft maize dress. Mrs. Kennedy had a dress of yellow striped satin, made with a Swiss bodice, trimmed with gold embroidery. Mrs. Carse Smith was in black and white; the train and bodice were composed of striped black and white velvet, and a petticoat of white silk draped with white lace. Miss Massey wore a white silk, with a front of fancy figured chiffon. Mrs. Bingham Baring wore a black dress, with jewelled embroidery; and Mrs. Pole Carew was in white and gold.

The marriage of the Rev. H. J. A. Lucas, of Bury St. Edmunds, son of Mr. G. W. Lucas, of Netley House, Clifton, with Miss Gertrude B. Mellersh, daughter of Mr. Frederick Mellersh, of Holloway Hill House, Godalming, took place at the parish church, Godalming, on the 14th inst. The bride wore a dress of white brocaded satin, with wreath of orange blossoms, and tulle veil. She was attended by four bridesmaids, attired in cream muslin in a design of honeysuckle, trimmed with green silk sashes, and chip hats trimmed with green velvet and honeysuckle. Their bouquets were composed of honeysuckle and William Allan Richardson roses. The bridegroom's gift to each was a silver heart-shaped toilet box. The officiating clergy were the Rev. C. C. Elcum, vicar of St. Agnes, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, assisted by the Rev. L. H. Burrows, vicar of Godalming. In the course of the day the newly-married couple left for Paris and Switzerland, the bride travelling in a dress of grey crêpe, trimmed with yellow Bengaline, and hat to match.

The mariage of the Rev. James Mackay, vicar of Leaton, with Miss Georgina Mary Kenyon, daughter of the late Capt. George Kenyon, R.N., of Grafton Lodge, was solemnised recently in Leaton Church. The bride wore a white satin duchesse gown, the bodice of which was prettily draped with moire chiffon, trimmed with silver embroidery lace and empire sash; the long trained skirt was trimmed with puffings of satin, and she wore a tulle veil, held with a diamond star and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet. There were four bridesmaids, who were alike attired in charming dresses of white crépon, with silk bodices and Zouave jackets, and white lace hats trimmed with bunches of white lilac, and each carried bouquets of white lilac, and wore a brooch of gold and pearls. The bride's train was borne by Master W. G. Pigott. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. T. E. Usherwood. The newly-wedded couple afterwards left Grafton for The Gelli, lent by the Hon. Georgina and the Hon. Henrietta Kenyon. The bride's travelling-dress consisted of blue cloth, with bodice embroidered with ruby silk and beads; three-quarter-coat, with revers of velvet, a chip hat and feathers.

The marriage of Count Carl Mauritz Claes Lewenhaupt, son of Count Maurits Lewenhaupt, of Beckershof, Sweden, late Commander Kgl. Sr. Fl., with Miss Hedda Johanna Magdalena Bildt, daughter of the late Axel Ferdinand Bildt, of Undevalla, Major, Bohnslau Regiment, was solemnised in Haga Church, Gothenburg, on the 9th ult. The bride was attired in white Bengaline, trimmed with white silk lace, and made with a long train. She carried a bouquet of roses, with rose ribbons, and wore a diamond bracelet. The Lord Bishop of Gothenburg performed the marriage rite, and the usual Swedish nuptial hymns were sung by the choir. The relations and friends present at the ceremony included Count Lewenhaupt, Comtesse L., Comtesse C., and Comtesse A. Lewenhaupt, Major Count C. J. Lewenhaupt, Comtesse Lewenhaupt (*née* Baroness Uggla), Comtesse H. Lewenhaupt, Count C. Lewenhaupt, Comtesse Lewenhaupt (*née* Wilson), Count Adam Lewenhaupt, Countess Hamilton (*née* Lewenhaupt), Lieutenant Count C. J. Hamilton, Baron Dickson, Mr. Fritz Bildt, Mrs. Dickson, the Misses Dickson, Messrs. Osborne and Douglas Dickson, Mrs. Eric Wijk and the Misses Wijk, Mrs. Colonel Arsenius (*née* Bildt), Mr. Edwin and Miss Willerding, and many others. The bride and bridegroom left after the ceremony for one of the bridegroom's estates in Småland. The bride's travelling costume was of dark blue cheviot, with drab-coloured coat, and sailor hat with blue ribbons.

CHIT CHAT.

Advices received in Berlin represent the Emperor as enjoying his cruise in Norway, and as having been greatly benefited by it in health. The Imperial party have been spending their time on board in the same way as on previous trips. At eight or half-past there is breakfast, which his Majesty takes with his suite (this is always served in the English style); at one o'clock he has a solid lunch, and at seven or eight dinner. The suite and the commander of the ship are always present at meals, and of the other six officers, including the doctor, always two in turns. The Emperor hears reports generally between breakfast and lunch. In the afternoon he writes letters and reads diplomatic reports. In the evening his Majesty generally promenades on deck for some time with one or the other of his suite. He then goes down to tea in the saloon, and spends an hour or so in conversation or in listening to music.

The Gaekwar of Baroda, who is now to be seen in Oriental garb on a visit to this country, possesses jewels estimated to be worth nearly £1,000,000.

On some of the prairies in America is found what is called the compass plant, of great value to travellers. The long leaves at the base of its stem assume a vertical position, and point north and south. Travellers on dark nights have only to feel the edges of the leaves to ascertain the point of the compass.

At the international exhibition, which is now practically settled for 1900 in Paris, the chief novelty will, it is said, be a gigantic telescope, which will almost bring the moon within the exhibition grounds. This telescope will be provided with a mirror 10ft. in diameter and 18in. in thickness, and the moon will by its aid seem to be as close as the hills around Paris.

German workmen are taking advantage of the benefits of the legal edict which frees them from Sunday labour. Last Sunday in Berlin every one who could get out took advantage of the fine weather and wended his way to Grunewald and other places in the suburbs. This was the second Sunday that the law had been in force.

As an indication of thrift among the working-classes of France, it is stated that there are now 6,000,000 depositors in the French savings banks, with an accumulated fund of not less than £112,000,000.

Laundry work is taught in eighteen centres of the London School Board. While in 1890 only thirty girls completed a course of practical instruction in this department, last year the number rose to 678.

Leicester is said to show a most remarkable growth of evening school work in popular favour and usefulness. The subjects of recreation comprise musical drill, lantern exhibitions, short science lectures, ambulance, cookery, fretwork, singing, entertainments, social evenings, and so forth. An enthusiastic body of voluntary helpers undertake these branches, the expenses being met by private subscriptions; and the School Board also contribute their share towards making the classes attractive.

Mr. W. S. Green has sent in to the Congested Districts Board a hopeful report on his efforts to revive the fisheries on the west coast of Ireland. The heaviest take of all was that of the 18th of May last, when the boats came in with 73,350 mackerel, which left Galway in two special trains. It was one fair night between the storms, which kept the boats in harbour. The mackerel season, now ended, is considered to have proved that a good fishing can be carried on from Aran, and that with some slight improvements the fish can be sent to market at no exorbitant cost. The Arklow boats have earned over an average of £316 per boat for the season. The local boats, with experienced skippers but inexperienced crews, have earned about £70 per boat. In all about £5,000 worth of mackerel have gone from Aran to the public markets, and out of this the fishermen engaged have earned about £3,000.

In the Calcutta *Englishman* attention is called to a curious illustration of the light in which prison life is regarded by criminals in India. The record of gaol administration in the central provinces for the past year shows that four prisoners succeeded in effecting their escape from the Sambulpur barrack, breaking open a locked door, and by piling several tables one upon the other forming a ladder by means of which they scaled the prison wall. It was regarded as a matter for surprise that all the prisoners in the barrack did not take the opportunity to make their escape. But their apathy was to a certain extent explained by the voluntary return of one of the fugitives a few days later. He had found, he said, that he was better off inside the goal than out of it.

Another City of London landmark is to be demolished—the historic Church of All Hallows the Great. It will be sold, under the Union of Benefices Act, in order to provide a new building and endowment in some more suitable part of the diocese.

The recrudescence of the Anti-Semitic agitation in both France and Germany lends interest to some figures published by *La France* with reference to the number of Jews in the world at large, and in France in particular. In France and Algeria it appears there are about 130,000, the cities where they are most numerous being Paris (50,000), Oran (25,000), and Algiers (15,000). According to the *Annuaire Israelite*, Europe contains 5,400,000 Jews, the countries which have most in them being:—Russia, 2,562,000; Austro-Hungary, 1,644,000; Germany, 562,000; Roumania, 265,000; Turkey, 104,000. In this enumeration no mention is made of the United Kingdom, but we observe that, according to Brochelli, the number in these countries is 100,000. Of the remaining continents Africa possesses 350,000 Jews, (of whom 200,000 are in Abyssinia alone); Asia has 300,000, the majority being in Asiatic Turkey, namely 195,000, Palestine itself now containing 25,000; in America there are 250,000, nearly all (230,000) in the United States. Australasia, finally, does not seem to contain more than 12,000.

It is asserted that mosquitos can be persuaded to play the *rôle* of the parting guest by evaporating gum camphor in the rooms to which they have not been welcomed. The process can be accomplished in a very simple manner by placing a piece of the gum camphor in a plate, and holding it over a flame until the atmosphere is charged with the fumes.

In a capital address on "tooth culture," delivered at the annual meeting of the Eastern Counties Branch of the British Dental Association, Sir James Crichton-Browne referred to a change which has taken place in bread, as one of the causes of the increase of dental caries. So far as our country is concerned, this is essentially an age of white bread and fine flour, and it is an age therefore in which we are no longer partaking, to anything like the same amount that our ancestors did, of the bran or husky parts of wheat, and so are deprived to a large degree of a chemical element which they contain—namely, fluorine. The late Dr. George Wilson showed that fluorine is more widely distributed in nature than was before his time supposed, but still, as he pointed out, it is but sparingly present where it does occur, and the only channels by which it can apparently find its way into the animal economy are through the siliceous stems of grasses and the outer husks of grain, in which it exists in comparative abundance. Analysis has proved that the enamel of the teeth contains more flourine, in the form of fluoride of calcium, than any other part of the body, and fluorine might, indeed, be regarded as the characteristic chemical constituent of this structure, the hardest of all animal tissue, and containing 95·5 per cent. of salts, against 72 per cent. in the dentine. As this is so, it is clear that a supply of fluoride, while the development of the teeth is proceeding, is essential to the proper formation of the enamel, and that any deficiency in this respect must result in thin and inferior enamel. Sir James Crichton-Browne thinks it well worthy of consideration whether the reintroduction into our diet of a supply of fluorine in some suitable natural form—and what form, he asks, can be more suitable than that in which it exists in the pellicles of our grain stuffs?—might not do something to fortify the teeth of the next generation.

The digestibility of various kinds of cheese has been carefully tested by a German chemist, who placed the samples in an artificial digestive fluid containing a considerable proportion of fresh gastric juice. Chester and Roquefort cheese took four hours to digest; genuine Emmenthaler, Gorgonzola, and Neufchatel, eight hours; Romadour, nine hours; and Kottenberger, Brie, Swiss, and ten other varieties, ten hours. As an ordinary meal is digested in four or five hours, the common belief that cheese aids digestion appears to be an error.

The Chicago Exhibition will include what promises to be a very important department for the exhibition of objects relating to ethnology, archæology, history, and cartography. A special bureau connected with the department will represent the history of the Latin-American Republics, and include all relics of the time of Columbus. There will also be a group of "isolated and collective exhibits." A full account of the plan of the department, and of the classification of the exhibits, has been prepared by Mr. F. W. Putnam, chief of the department. By means of special research in different parts of America, under Mr. Putnam's direction, important scientific collections in the ethnological and archæological sections will be brought together. It is hoped that every State Board and many historical and scientific societies, as well as owners of private collections, will do what they can to contribute to the success of the department, so that it may present a full and effective illustration of the present status of American archæology and ethnology.

Waterloo Station boasts the largest signal-box in the world. In order to control the number of trains which pass in and out of the station, 18,000 distinct lever motions and 20,000 electrical signals are required. The shunting movements alone in the course of four hours number 173, the actual cause and time of each shunt being duly reported.

The Italian Minister of Marine has given orders for experiments to be made with a submarine boat recently built at Spezzia. It was designed by Admiral Pullino, and is moved by electricity. It can remain five hours under water, and can descend to a depth of 20 fathoms. The naval authorities are sanguine as to the results that will be obtained from the new invention.

The French Government, heedless of the rumours of diplomatic communications among European Governments, perhaps rather spurred on by them, have come to a final resolution as to holding a Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1900. The President yesterday signed the decree fixing the date of the Exhibition. It is to be opened on the 5th of May, 1900, and closed on the 31st October of that year.

As Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury has seen seven consecutive Lord Mayor's Days in London; by this he has beaten the record of more than sixty years. During these few years it has been his pleasure to appoint two Archbishops of York, sixteen Bishops, and a very large number of other ecclesiastical appointments. Probably no other Prime Minister has had so much patronage at his disposal in so short a time.

The work of the Mint is extensive. During the year 1891, 142 tons of gold bullion were melted and cast into sovereigns and half-sovereign bars; and 237 tons of silver were melted for the Imperial coinage and for medals. Many experiments have been made in this country and abroad to ascertain the wear of gold coin, but trials in special apparatus are no criteria of wear in ordinary use. It appears that on the average it takes twenty years to reduce a sovereign to its least current weight. A new series of alloys of aluminium and gold is of interest from the intensity of the colours, which varies from yellowish-green to purple.

Last year the French Cabinet determined upon a policy of regulation as regards betting, and imposed a tax of two per cent. upon winnings for the benefit of charitable institutions. Betting agencies on racecourses are duly licensed, and they pay on all their transactions, deducting the tax from clients who happen to win. Although this arrangement was made in in June last year, already a sum not far short of £100,000 has accrued, and the money is being usefully apportioned. To the French Hospital at Constantinople £4,000 has been voted, and £3,000 towards the foundation of a similar institution in Savoy: £14,000 goes amongst several charitable societies in Paris, and an association which looks after the welfare of released prisoners will benefit materially. A hospital for the reception of scrofulous children is about to be erected at St. Raphael, and this project will be assisted by a liberal donation.

The Fairchild lecture was delivered at the Shoreditch Parish Church. In 1728 Thomas Fairchild, "the pious gardener of Hoxton," vested the sum of £25 in the churchwardens of Shoreditch for the delivery of a lecture every Whitsun Tuesday on a subject drawn from "The Wonderful Works of God in the Creation," or "The Certainty of the Resurrection from the Dead," as illustrated from the changes in the animal and vegetable world. Dr. John Denne delivered the first lecture on Whit-Tuesday, May 19, 1730; and from that time until now, 162 years, the lecture has been delivered annually without a break at Shoreditch Church.

M. E. A. Martel continues his researches into the subterranean geography of France. In March last he descended the "unfathomable" Creux-Percé on the plateau of Langres, proving it to be only 180ft. deep. It is a hollow in Jurassic limestone, and, although open to daylight, forms a natural ice-house, having a temperature of 28deg. Fahr., when the external air was at 58deg. In June he examined the still more remarkable Creux de Souci in the department of the Puy de Dôme. It proved to be a rounded cavity in recent basalt, 115ft. deep, having the appearance of being formed by a great gas bubble. A stagnant pool occupied the bottom of the pit, and above it the air was so much impregnated with carbonic acid that a candle would not burn. In this instance also the temperature fell as the distance from the surface increased, that of the external air being 51deg., of the air at the bottom of the shaft 34deg., and the water itself 34·3deg.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co., will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation free of all charge.

The ancient city of Carthage now possesses a station which is within half-an-hour's walk of the site of the ancient citadel, and the ruins have become a favourite excursion from Tunis. Till quite lately the only place of worship there was the Chapel of St. Louis, built by Louis Philippe in 1841, on the spot on which Louis IX. is supposed to have died in 1270. The chapel was not remarkable for its style and architecture, and has now been superseded by a fine building. The Cathedral is the outcome of the great French missionary movement in the French-African colonies, the Soudan, and Central Africa, inaugurated and supported by the well-known Cardinal Lavigerie. Taken in connection with the troubles in Uganda, the opening of this cathedral is of the greatest interest to all connected with Africa, as it supplies the visible sign of the French proselytising Church. The cathedral is of stone, in a modified style of Gothic architecture, with many features borrowed from ancient buildings in Tunis and Cairo, so that the general effect suggests Eastern rather than Western architecture. In fact it is an attempt to engraft the Christian architecture of the North upon the Saracenic of the South and East. The architect has shown considerable skill in the introduction of great masses of shadow contrasting powerfully with broad surfaces of light, which, in a hot brilliant climate, always has a striking effect, and gives the building a local peculiarity as well as an original character.

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